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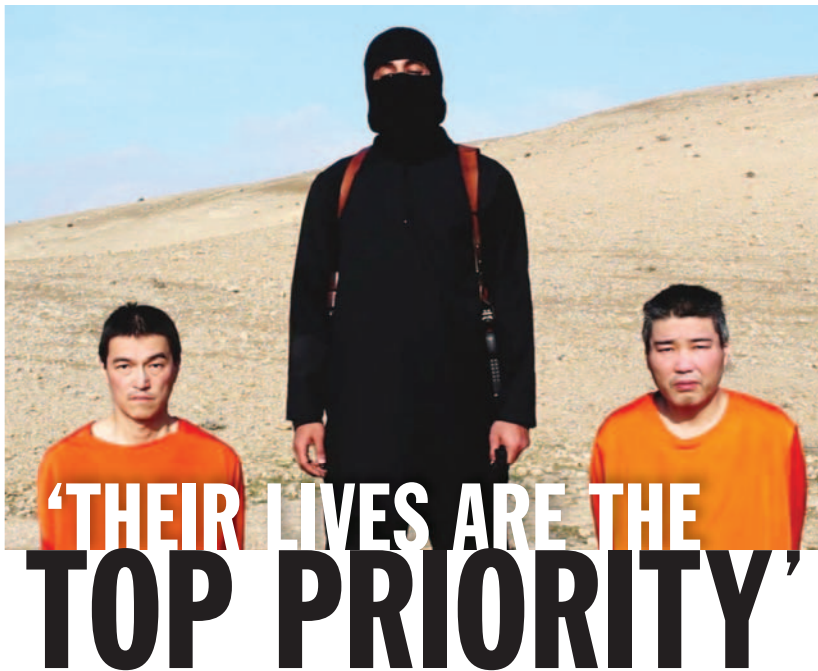
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Volume 73, No. 197 ©SS 2015

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2015

平成27年1月21日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊(土日除く)  
発行所: 星条旗新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番1号 定価 ¥50

50¢/Free to Deployed Areas



Prime minister vows to save 2 Japanese hostages held by Islamic State

BY JON GAMBRELL  
AND MARI YAMAGUCHI  
The Associated Press

CAIRO — The Islamic State group threatened to kill two Japanese hostages Tuesday unless they receive \$200 million in 72 hours, directly demanding the ransom from Japan's premier during his visit to the Middle East. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe vowed to save the men, saying, "Their lives are the top priority."

Abe and other Japanese officials declined to discuss whether they'd pay the ransom for

**INSIDE**  
Canadian soldiers  
exchange fire with  
militants in Iraq  
**Page 6**

captives Kenji Goto and Haruna Yukawa, though their armed forces generally operate only in a self-defense capacity at home. Their kidnapping also immediately recalled the 2004 beheading of a Japanese backpacker in Iraq, carried out by the Islamic

State group's predecessor over Japan's involvement in the U.S.-led war there.

Tuesday's video, identified as being made by the Islamic State group's al-Furqan media arm and posted on militant websites associated with the extremist group, mirrored other hostage threats it has made. Japanese officials said they would analyze the tape to verify its authenticity, though Abe offered no hesitation as he pledged to free the men while speaking to journalists in Jerusalem.

SEE HOSTAGES ON PAGE 6

An image from a video released by the Islamic State group on Tuesday purports to show two Japanese hostages, Kenji Goto, left, and Haruna Yukawa, right, whom militants threaten to kill unless a \$200 million ransom is paid within 72 hours.

AP

## New Hercules to take on heavy lifting in Pacific in '17

By SETH ROBSON  
Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — The newest version of the Air Force's C-130 Hercules transport is coming to Japan, where its increased cargo capacity, power and range should help in disaster relief and other missions across the Pacific, according to officials at Yokota Air Base and aircraft maker Lockheed-Martin.

"We're looking at transitioning from our H-model (C-130s) to the (newer) J-models," 374th Airlift Wing Vice Commander Col. Clarence Lukes Jr. said recently, adding that the C-130Js are scheduled to arrive at Yokota in 2017.

**INSIDE**  
A look at features of the new C-130J  
**Page 2**

The 374th flies 14 C-130s on missions throughout the western Pacific. Aircraft from Yokota helped out after Japan's 2011 earthquake and tsunami and Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines a year ago.

The arrival of the new aircraft is in line with U.S. defense chiefs' pledge to send their newest platforms to the Pacific as part of the Obama administration's strategic rebalance to the region.

Larry Gallogly, Lockheed Martin air mobility programs business development director and a pilot with 30 years of experience flying "Hercs," said Yokota will receive a stretched version that can hold two extra pallets of cargo.

"It's not about a shiny new plane," he said. "It's really about the operational capability they gain with this aircraft compared to the older versions."

Automated navigation and engineering systems mean the new aircraft needs two fewer crewmembers. More efficient composite propellers and new Rolls Royce engines provide more power, fuel efficiency and range, he said.

The C-130J can fly about 3,000 miles in wilderness conditions — about the same as the C-130H with external fuel tanks, Gallogly said.

SEE C-130 ON PAGE 2

### WAR/MILITARY

Afghan journalists self-censor to survive, rights group reports

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Eric Church tailors country-rock sound to new arena tour

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### COLLEGE BASKETBALL

No. 1 Kentucky back to unbeatable after routs of Missouri, Alabama

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## QUOTE OF THE DAY

**"It was a hate crime, and that's exactly what should be on his record forever."**

— Kristyn Atwood, who was among a group of mostly black fourth-grade students attacked by actor Mark Wahlberg and others in 1986, on Wahlberg's request for a pardon

See story on Page 8

## TOP CLICKS ON STRIPES.COM

The most popular stories on our website:

1. Muslims form 'no-go zones' outside civic control, Jindal says
2. Video: Islamic State group threatens to kill Japan hostages
3. Widow of American Sniper' author curbs interviews amid book criticism
4. Chris Kyle's widow at DC premiere of 'American Sniper': 'I think they nailed it'
5. Jane Fonda on Vietnam War comments: 'I made a huge, huge mistake'

## COMING SOON

Video games

"Disney Infinity 2.0"



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## WAR/MILITARY

# C-130: New aircraft offers more power, space for cargo

### FROM FRONT PAGE

"The average person, when they look at the aircraft from the outside, will notice it is a little longer (15 extra feet), and the propellers have six blades instead of four," he said. "But you won't notice anything more. For the crewmembers, it has the look and feel of a Herc, but when you push the throttle, you notice the power."

The extra power allows the aircraft to climb more steeply, he said. "This is a very powerful beast, and power can make up for a lot of mistakes and get you into a lot more places."

Other improvements make the plane more efficient in combat. For example, the cargo bay can be quickly reconfigured to handle cargo or passengers, cutting down time in hostile environments.

The propellers can be placed in "hotel mode" on the flight line — a process that disconnects them from the engines, which can be left running without kicking up dirt and debris from propeller wash, Gallogly said.

"Navigation tools such as a moving map display add to the situational awareness of the pilots," he said. "You don't need the navigator."

Likewise, computers and sensors have replaced engineers. The aircraft alerts crew to mechanical faults and often fixes them automatically. At times, pilots must follow emergency checklists read by loadmasters to verify and correct issues in flight, he said.

The Air Force, which received its first C-130A Hercules in 1956, already has 200 C-130Js that have flown more than 1.2 million hours.

During their first combat deployments — to Iraq and Afghanistan in 2005 — C-130Js performed so well that they were immediately sent back to the desert, said Gallogly, who flew missions in the aircraft at the time.

"I was a skeptic at first," he said. "I thought we were getting too fancy. I questioned the reduced crew complement for low-level flying and combat."

The performance of the aircraft quickly erased those concerns, he said. "In Afghanistan at high altitude, the H models could get in and out of airfields, but they could only carry limited cargo — a couple of pallets at most," Gallogly said. "The J models can go to these locations fully loaded."

More power and cargo space mean two C-130Js can do the job of three C-130Hs. For example, two of the aircraft were able to move a Marine unit comprising 125 personnel, gear and vehicles during the 2005 deployment, he said.

"Every time these airplanes go into hostile fire, you are sending two instead of three," Gallogly added.

Instead of exposing 18 crewmembers to a threat during a typical mission commanders need to send only eight, with flow-on effects for things like lodging and food, he said.

Lockheed Martin estimates that — due to the fuel and personnel savings — the C-130J costs 30 percent less to operate than its predecessor, Gallogly said.

Hawaii-based Pacific Forum think tank President Ralph Cossa, a former Air Force officer, said the Air Force is looking for ways to

## A bigger, badder Hercules

The Air Force is scheduled to deliver the new C-130J aircraft to Yokota Air Base, Japan, starting in 2017. Here is a look at some of the features of the newest model.



- 15 feet longer than the C-130H models, which currently are being flown at Yokota, Room for two more cargo pallets.
- Automated navigation and engineering systems on the new aircraft mean it needs three crewmembers instead of five. In the cockpit, a moving map display means no navigator is needed. Sensors throughout the plane alert the pilots to mechanical problems, meaning no engineer is needed.
- More efficient six-blade composite propellers that can be put in "hotel mode" on the flight line so the blades stop spinning even when the engines are running.
- More powerful Rolls Royce engines that allow the aircraft to climb at a steeper angle and reach high altitude airstrips with a full load of cargo.
- Greater fuel efficiency that gives the C-130J the same range (3,000 miles in windless conditions) as a C-130H with external fuel tanks.
- Changes to the cargo bay that allow it to be quickly reconfigured to accommodate pallets or passengers.

SOURCE: Lockheed Martin

Stars and Stripes

trim ballooning personnel costs.

"Any weapons system that can operate as efficiently or more efficiently with fewer people is a boon," he said.

Cossa said that as long as the Air Force is run by fighter pilots,

it will be reluctant to cut pilot positions, but that there's probably less resistance to replacing C-130 crewmembers with automated systems.

robson.ath@stripes.com  
Twitter: @SethRobson1

# Bahrain rights activist gets 6 months in jail over tweets

The Associated Press

MANAMA, Bahrain — Nabeel Rajab, one of Bahrain's best-known human rights activists, was sentenced to six months in jail Tuesday after being found guilty of insulting government ministries on Twitter.

Rajab can remain free on bail for now as he appeals his case, said his lawyer, Jallila al-Sayed.

He is unable to leave the tiny island kingdom, which has been roiled by nearly four years of unrest as its majority Shiites have called for greater political rights from the Sunni leadership.

Bahraini authorities backed by security forces from neighboring Gulf states put down widespread protests in 2011, but sporadic demonstrations and other low-

level unrest continue. Clashes between activists and police erupted again Tuesday in Bilad al-Qadeem, a suburb of the capital, Manama.

Rajab told The Associated Press that he believes authorities are using court cases to try to prevent him from pushing for greater rights in the country, which is home to the U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet. "Jailing every human

rights advocate will not stop us," he said.

Rajab was charged in October with insulting the ministries of defense and interior over tweets alleging that Bahrain's security institutions were incubators for extremist ideology.

Rajab is the president of the Bahrain Center for Human Rights and is active in other advocacy groups.

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STARS AND STRIPES



## WAR/MILITARY

# Group: Afghan press freedom endangered

By JOSH SMITH  
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — As international attention shifts elsewhere, press freedom is in a "downward spiral" in Afghanistan, leading some journalists to engage in self-censorship to protect themselves, a human rights group warned on Tuesday.

A 50-page report released by Human Rights Watch said Afghan journalists — who have grown in number since the fall of the Taliban in 2001 — say they face increasing threats not only from insurgents but also from corrupt government officials.

"The phenomenal growth of the media in Afghanistan has been one of the most significant achievements of the post-2001 reconstruction effort," Human Rights Watch researcher Patricia Gossman wrote in the report. "But with most foreign military forces having withdrawn from Afghanistan, and a substantial decline in foreign donor assistance to the country, the freedom that spurred the media's growth is in peril."

Attacks on journalists by Taliban insurgents often go unpunished, the report found, indicating "widespread impunity and failure to establish the rule of law" in the country.

During the 2014 presidential election, the Taliban issued threats to a range of print and broadcast media that covered the contest. One reporter was told his house would be attacked if he continued quoting the election commission.

At the same time, as foreign troops withdraw and international aid decreases, journalists are coming under increasing pressure from Afghan officials.

Government or pro-government forces were responsible in 63 percent of the cases

of threats and violence against journalists tracked by the Afghan Journalists Safety Committee since 2012. Last year saw the highest number of such incidents, with 68 reported cases.

In one case documented by Human Rights Watch, a Kabul-based news organization had to seek police protection after armed men arrived at the office following an investigation into the allegedly unlawful seizure of land by powerful government officials. In other instances, officials force journalists to apologize for stories critical of government or other powerful interests.

Self-censorship has become a "survival mechanism" for some reporters, Gossman wrote, especially those based outside the major cities. "Many steer clear of reporting on sensitive issues — including corruption, land grabbing, violence against women, and human rights abuses — as a means to minimize safety risks."

Nazifullah Salarzai, a spokesman for Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, said the Afghan government takes threats to journalists seriously, and he encouraged media to report any harassment to government officials.

"The president has ordered his legal adviser to examine all those cases where journalists in Afghanistan face violence in the past," Salarzai said when asked about the report. He added that any government officials caught threatening journalists would be brought to justice.

Two national commissions established by a 2009 law designed to protect journalists have yet to become functional, while a commission investigating alleged "violations" by media is up and running and routinely investigates complaints against members



Stars and Stripes

**Afghan journalists huddle around eyewitnesses at the scene of a February 2014 bombing. A Human Rights Watch report released Tuesday said journalists increasingly face threats from Taliban insurgents and corrupt government officials.**

of the press.

Human Rights Watch found that powerful individuals bypass the media violations commission, going to the attorney general's office to seek legal action against journalists whose stories they don't like. The Information and Culture Ministry, meanwhile, "has served largely as a cudgel to intimidate the press."

Since the fall of the Taliban in 2001, an array of new media outlets has appeared in Afghanistan, from small operations

owned by political and religious figures, to broadcasting behemoth TOLO TV, owned by Afghan-Australian entrepreneur Saad Mohseni. TOLO controls as much as 45 percent of the national market.

Some analysts fear that the ethnic, political and religious differences among media owners could inflame conflicts with the departure of international donors.

Zubair Babakarkhail contributed to this report. smith.josh@stars.com  
Twitter: @joshionsmith

# Afghan president presents nominees for Cabinet

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Afghan President Ashraf Ghani presented his nominees for Cabinet to the country's parliament for confirmation on Tuesday — almost four months after he took office and amid mounting public impatience over the delays in forming a government.

The candidates, including three women, were presented to the assembly's lower house, or Wolesi Jirga, as Ghani's original list was hit by controversy — with one nominee allegedly being sought by Interpol to answer tax evasion charges and two others mysteriously withdrawing their candidacy just hours before the presentation.

In a speech lasting more than an hour and ranging widely over topics including trade, corruption, drug addiction and government accountability, Ghani said, "I have tried my best to present a Cabinet that would be acceptable to you."

Ghani was inaugurated in September after a protracted election process that ended in a U.S.-brokered deal. Abdullah Abdullah formed a "national unity" government. Abdullah is now chief executive.

The delay in choosing Cabinet nominees eroded confidence in Ghani, who took office promising to end corruption and create a transparent, accountable government, signaling a break with the 13 years of patronage politics fa-



MASSOUD HOSSAIN/AP

**Afghan President Ashraf Ghani speaks during a ceremony at the parliament in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Tuesday. He presented his nominees for Cabinet to the National Assembly.**

vored by his predecessor, Hamid Karzai.

Rumors had swirled about the causes of the delay — from an inability of the two men to agree on nominees to the need to appease ethnic groups, tribes, geographical regions and religious beliefs in the complex Afghan mosaic.

It also exacerbated concerns about Ghani's ability to deal with

the intensified Taliban insurgency following the departure on Dec. 31 of most U.S. and NATO combat troops, leaving Afghan security forces to fight alone. Last year was the deadliest since the insurgency began, with record numbers of civilians, soldiers and police killed by the Taliban. Many expect Ghani's resolve for peace to be tested this year once the winter snows thaw and fighting season

begins in spring.

Fears about the intensity of the insurgency have been stoked by admissions from military and civilian leaders that the Islamic State group has established a recruiting presence in the volatile south of the country.

Relief that the Cabinet list had been compiled and the stasis of governance would finally end was quickly tempered with revelations about the nominee for the agriculture portfolio, Mohammad Yaqub Haidari, 52. He is allegedly wanted on tax evasion and fraud charges in Estonia and appears on Interpol's most-wanted list. Presidential spokesman Nazifullah Salarzai, implying the allegations against Haidari were not known at the administration's upper echelons, said if the allegations that he is a fugitive prove true, "Afghan law will be enforced on him."

Hours ahead of the session, parliamentarians revealed that a number of the nominees are dual citizens — of the United States, Britain, Australia and other countries. The Afghan Constitution says that parliament can choose whether or not holders of dual citizenship can take ministerial or other high office and some MPs have said they will oppose all nominees holding dual nationalities.

Two nominees withdrew their candidacies for unknown reasons, and another, a woman, was said by local media to have inflated her age to meet the constitution-

al minimum requirement of 35. Two replacements were quickly announced.

"Unfortunately, the nation has waited for more than three months but what happened — the Cabinet has been announced with so many problems at the very start of the process," said political analyst Azaraski Hafizi. "The makeup of this Cabinet proves that we will have a lot of problems in the future when it comes to appointing provincial governors, ambassadors and other officials" because their loyalty to their political backers would be an ongoing issue, he said.

Ghulam Nabi Farahi, minister for parliamentary affairs, presented 24 of the 25 Cabinet nominees, except agriculture, along with a short biography. Also facing a confirmation vote will be the nominees for intelligence chief and Central Bank director.

Kabul MP Shukria Barakzaim said Ghani's candidates would be closely vetted by the assembly. "We should go and vote for qualified people who have talent, a plan and a strategy, and who want to move the country forward," she said.

Elsewhere in Afghanistan, six civilians, including a woman and a child, were killed when their minibus was hit by a roadside bomb blast in the eastern province of Ghazni, said Asadullah Ensaifi, deputy police chief for the province. Two other civilians were wounded in the attack.



## MILITARY

# Supreme Court allows burn-pit suits to proceed

By HEATH DRUZIN  
Stars and Stripes

The Supreme Court is allowing lawsuits involving open-air burn pits in Iraq and Afghanistan and a soldier's electrocution in a base shower to move forward against two of the largest American military contractors, according to wire reports.

The lawsuits were filed against KBR Inc. and Halliburton Co., which had filed appeals saying the lawsuits should be thrown out because the company was operating as an arm of the military in Iraq and Afghanistan. Two of the lawsuits include claims that troops suffered health problems related to their exposure to burn pits and toxic chemicals on American bases in Iraq and Afghanistan. Another claims that shoddy electrical work led to the electrocution death of Staff Sgt. Ryan Maseth, who was killed in a base shower in Iraq.

In general, the government cannot be sued in such cases, but private contractors working on behalf of the government have presented a legal gray area. Supreme Court justices offered no comment for their decision, according to The Associated Press. The Obama administration has sided with the contractors.

Open burning of waste was commonplace at bases in Iraq and Afghanistan, and many troops suspect respiratory problems they have suffered after their



Stars and Stripes

The burn pit at a combat outpost in Baghdad shows the amount and types of trash openly burned at U.S. bases in Iraq. The Supreme Court is allowing a lawsuit over the burn pits to proceed.

deployments may be linked the clouds of smoke that often hung over bases.

The burn pit decision could open the door to thousands of troops who were potentially exposed to toxic chemicals and encourage more law firms to take up their cases, said Kelly Kennedy, a spokeswoman for the Berg-

mann and Moore law firm, which focuses on veterans' claims.

"If there's money to be made, people will investigate those claims more thoroughly," said Kennedy, who reported on burn pit exposures for Army Times and USA Today.

druzin.heath@stripes.com  
Twitter: @Druzin\_Stripes

## Green to be Marines' new sergeant major

By JENNIFER HLAĐ  
Stars and Stripes

SAN DIEGO — Sgt. Maj. Ronald L. Green will be the 18th sergeant major of the Marine Corps, Marine Commandant Gen. Joseph Dunford announced Tuesday.

Green, the current sergeant major of I Marine Expeditionary Force at Camp Pendleton, Calif., will assume duties as the senior enlisted leader of the Corps on Feb. 10 in a ceremony at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va.

"His dynamic leadership will

known throughout the ranks of our corps," Dunford said in a written statement. "His wide range of experience in both peacetime and combat, and his record of performance, make him extraordinarily well-qualified to serve as our senior enlisted leader."

Green enlisted Nov. 27, 1983, and after completing recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., was assigned as a cannon coxer with Hotel Battery, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marines, according to his official biography.

Green served as a drill instructor at Parris Island from 1990 to

1992, and was selected to the rank of sergeant major in December 2004. He has deployed to South America and Iraq, and previously served as force sergeant major for Marine Corps Forces Europe and Marine Corps Forces Africa.

"It truly is an honor to be selected as the 18th sergeant major of the Marine Corps," Green said in a written statement. "I look forward to serving as the Marine Corps' senior enlisted advisor and serving our Marines, sailors and their families."

hlad.jennifer@stripes.com  
Twitter: @jhlad

## Armed Services panel head urges House reject cuts

By TRAVIS J. TRITTEN  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The House should oppose cuts to military personnel and equipment this year because they could weaken the United States at a time when global threats are on the rise, the new chairman of the Armed Services Committee said Tuesday.

Rep. Mac Thornberry, R-Texas, staked out a hawkish position for his military oversight committee in his first major policy speech of the new Congress. He signaled he will follow his predecessor and fight Pentagon plans to reduce servicemember compensation and retire weapons systems such as the A-10 Thunderbolt to balance budgets.

The speech was an early indication of how a new Republican majority in both chambers of Congress may deal with a \$523 billion budget cap on defense spending this year, which will likely prompt the White House and Defense Department to again call for a range of cuts. Both are expected to release proposed budgets early next month.

An unpredictable and volatile world "requires the United States to have a military that is both strong and agile, and I think we have a lot of work on both fronts," Thornberry said at the American Enterprise Institute. "Of course, to be strong, we have to stop the slide in defense budgets."

The defense budget has dipped over the past four years since the U.S. began wrapping up combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. But the conflicts pumped up spending to its highest point in more than 60 years, and reductions have still left the budget about \$100 billion higher than the lows after the Vietnam War and the Cold War, according to the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Congress agreed to spending caps beginning this year, but will allow defense spending to increase by \$1.7 billion and maintain small increases in the coming years. The Pentagon sees the ceiling as a cut due to ballooning personnel costs such as health care and expectations that it protect the country from a growing variety of conflicts abroad.

Thornberry said military readiness is already plummeting and military families are stretched to

the breaking point due to the decreases since 2010.

"Our people of course are our most valuable assets," he said. "We need a comprehensive look at the whole benefit structure rather than nickel-and-dime our people... as the [Obama] administration has proposed."

Thornberry also said the Pentagon can be "penny wise and pound foolish" when it comes to trimming spending on equipment and that Congress should take a stronger oversight role in deciding whether its proposals are wise.

As an example, he said lawmakers pushed to keep an M1 Abrams tank factory open despite the Army saying it did not need it. The move was criticized but soon after the service sent more of the tanks to Europe in reaction to the instability in the Ukraine, Thornberry said.

"Maybe that is some evidence we made the right call," he said.

Last year, former Armed Services Chairman Buck McKeon, a California Republican, fought a range of proposals to cut Pentagon budget cuts on troop housing allowances, commissaries, and health care insurance, as well as reductions in equipment including the retirement of the A-10 aircraft and the USS George Washington aircraft carrier.

McKeon ultimately failed to block all the spending cuts and made a last-minute deal with Democratic leadership on the Senate side that allowed some initial reductions in benefits.

As Congress is gears up for another round of budget debates, Thornberry called on lawmakers to keep up defense spending. On the Senate side, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., has said he is willing to consider reforms to servicemembers' benefits to save money but strongly opposed the retirement of the A-10 last year.

Thornberry compared the current budget situation to Congress' effort in the 1930s to build warships that many viewed as uneeded but eventually were crucial to the victory over Japanese naval forces in World War II.

"We don't have Imperial Japan and Nazi Germany but we have a rising China and a resurgent Russia," he said.

tritten.travis@stripes.com  
Twitter: @Travis\_Tritten

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# MILITARY



ANTONINO D'URSO/AP

Migrants wait after disembarking Jan. 3 from the cargo ship Ezadeen, which carried hundreds of migrants into the southern Italian port of Corigliano.

## Flood of migrants into Italy causing security concerns

BY STEVEN BEARDSLEY  
Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy — The U.S. Joint Chiefs chairman and Italian officials said Monday that Washington and Rome share concerns about the flood of migrants into Italy from the Middle East and Africa amid heightened terrorism fears in Europe.

The U.S. has warned in the past about the possible flow of foreign fighters through Europe's southern borders as refugees flee Syria, Libya and other warring nations. European governments are increasingly worried about their own citizens who have traveled abroad to train with terrorist groups and then return home. The recent attacks in Paris and the thwarted attacks in Belgium have underscored those concerns.

Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Martin Dempsey met with Italian Defense Minister Roberta Pinotti and Chief of Defense Adm. Luigi Biselli Mantelli on Monday. He was joined by U.S. Ambassador to Italy John R. Phillips.

The meeting included discussions about U.S. and allied operations against the Islamic State group in Iraq and Syria.

Both sides expressed concern about foreign fighters, according to a Defense Department release, and Dempsey said countries that

### 170K

The approximate number of migrants who have entered Italy in the past year, crossing the Mediterranean Sea. That's roughly four times the number in 2013, according to International Organization for Migration estimates.

migrants are leaving should be a part of any discussion about extremism.

"Looking at it one country at a time is not the answer," Dempsey was quoted as saying. He told his counterparts the issue would be discussed at a NATO defense ministers' meeting Wednesday and Thursday in Brussels, his next stop after Rome.

More than 170,000 migrants have entered Italy in the past year, crossing the Mediterranean Sea. That's roughly four times the number in 2013, according to estimates released last week by the International Organization for Migration.

But an IOM official said those trying to cross into Italy are refugees and asylum-seekers escaping war or impoverished conditions.

"We don't have any reports of infiltration or what we think would be characterized as al-Qaida or something like that using this as a launching point," spokesman Joel Millman said.

Syria remains the top point of origin of refugees arriving by sea, with more than 42,000 coming last year, according to IOM. In recent months, more boats have come to Italy from Turkey, which hosts roughly 1.8 million refugees from Syria's civil war. Many boats still come from or through Libya, where warring militias have caused instability.

The crossings are dangerous. More than 3,000 migrants died last year trying to make the journey, some of them from onboard fights and attacks.

Smugglers, who charge migrants hundreds of dollars each, pack them into small, ramshackle boats for a perilous crossing on the open sea.

"They're pushed out to sea and, fingers-crossed, they don't die," Millman said. "That's basically the practice."

Italian officials process those who make it to shore, he said, making it more unlikely the journey would be attractive to militants seeking to slip into Europe.

beardsley.steven@starsandstripes.com  
Twitter: @jsbeardsley

## MRAPs headed to Somalia

Stars and Stripes

The U.S. will transfer 20 mine resistant vehicles, commonly known as MRAPs, to African Union forces taking part in military operations in Somalia. Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa said Tuesday.

Uganda and Burundi, two countries that have been deploying forces into Somalia for years, will be the recipients of the vehicles previously used by U.S. troops in Afghanistan.

"The work that has been completed by CJTF-HOA and the other organizations to be able to provide these 20 MRAPs to Uganda and Burundi, has been extremely vital to enabling our East African Partners to fight off violent extremists," said Maj. Gen. Wayne Grigsby, task force commander, in a news release. "These vehicles will provide better security and movement to the troops-contributing countries to complete their mission more effectively."

The MRAPs were donated under

the Excess Defense Articles program. Military contractors have been working in Mogadishu since September to get 20 vehicles up and running. The 20 MRAPs will replace the current vehicle in use, the Caspary, and allow for the phasing out of 20 Casparys when all the MRAPs have been delivered, the task force said.

"We didn't realize the challenges we would face in Mogadishu with getting land and getting fuel for these vehicles," U.S. Army Maj. Myesha DuBose, the task force's Somalia planner, said in the news release.

The initial set of MRAPs are to be transferred to the Ugandans and Burundis by the end of January.

In Somalia, the African Union forces have played a key role in pushing Al-Shabab, an Islamic militant group, out of former strongholds.

news@starsandstripes.com

## Bill gives vets more sick leave

The Washington Post

Wounded veterans hired by the federal government would start their jobs with a stockpile of paid sick leave under a bill introduced in Congress last week.

The bipartisan measure would give service-disabled veterans 104 hours of paid sick time after they enter the federal workforce; non-veteran employees begin with none and accrue hours over time.

Rep. Stephen Lynch, D-Mass., who sponsored the bill, said in a joint statement with other House supporters that new veteran hires, many of whom return from multiple tours of duty with post-traumatic stress disorder and other health issues, often start their jobs without paid leave for medical appointments to treat their service-related disabilities.

"It is unacceptable that our wounded warrior federal employees who are just starting out in the

federal workforce are often faced with the difficult choice of having to take unpaid leave to attend their VA appointments or miss their medical visits," Lynch said.

Sens. Jon Tester, D-Mont., and Jerry Moran, R-Kan., plan to introduce companion legislation in the Senate soon, according to the statement.

The Federal Managers Association backed the proposal. Its president, Patricia Niehaus, said in a statement that agency supervisors "have seen firsthand the stress these new employees face as they struggle with their disability on top of the demands of their jobs."

The House bill would apply to former troops who qualify as 30 percent disabled by the Department of Veterans Affairs and are in their first year of work with a federal agency. To qualify for the early sick leave, they would have to submit certification to their agency.

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## WAR ON TERRORISM

# Hostages: Video with Japanese men marks first time Islamic State publicly demanded cash

FROM FRONT PAGE

"It is unforgivable," said Abe as he wrapped up a six-day visit to the Middle East. He added: "Extremism and Islam are completely different things."

In the video, the two men appear in orange jumpsuits with a rocky hill in the background, a masked militant dressed in black standing between them. The scene resembles others featuring the five hostages previously beheaded by the Islamic State group, which controls a third of Iraq and Syria.

"To the prime minister of Japan: Although you are more than 8,000 and 500 kilometers (5,280 miles) from the Islamic State, you willingly have volunteered to take part in this crusade," says the knife-brandishing militant, who resembles and sounds like a British militant involved in other filmed beheadings. "You have proudly donated \$100 million to kill our women and children, to destroy the homes of the Muslims ... and in an attempt to stop the expansion of the Islamic State, you have also donated another \$100 million to train the [apostates]."

The militant's comments likely refer to money Abe pledged while in Egypt to help Iraq's government and aid Syrian refugees.

Abe said he would send Yasuaki Nakayama, a deputy foreign minister, to Jordan to seek the country's support and to resolve the hostage crisis. The premier also said the Israeli government, which Japan promised Sunday to cooperate with on counterterrorism, is sharing information to aid in the hostage crisis. The Israeli prime minister's office declined to comment.

Speaking in Tokyo, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga also declined to say whether Japan would pay the ransom.

"If true, the act of threat in exchange of people's lives is unforgivable and we feel strong indignation," Suga told journalists. "We will make our utmost effort to win their release as soon as possible."

Yukawa, a 42-year-old private military company operator, was kidnapped in Syria in August after going there to train with militants, according to a post on a blog he kept. Pictures on his Facebook page show him in Iraq and Syria in July. One video on the page showed him holding a Kalashnikov assault rifle with the caption: "Syria war in Aleppo 2014."

"I cannot identify the destination," Yukawa wrote in his last blog post. "But the video could be the most dangerous." He added: "I hope to film my fighting scenes during an upcoming visit."

Nobuo Kimoto, an adviser to



HASSAN AHMAD/AP

**Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, left, and Egyptian Prime Minister Ibrahim Mahlab met in Cairo on Saturday. Comments made by an Islamic State militant in a video that shows two Japanese hostages likely refer to money Abe pledged while in Egypt to help Iraq's government and aid Syrian refugees.**

Yukawa's company, told Japanese public television station NHK that he had worried "something like this could happen sooner or later."

"I was afraid that they could use you Yukawa as a card," Kimoto said.

Goto, 47, is a respected Japanese freelance journalist who went to report on Syria's civil war last year.

"I'm in Syria for reporting," Goto wrote in an email to an Associated Press journalist in October. "I hope I can convey the atmosphere from where I am and share it."

The Islamic State group has beheaded and shot dead hundreds of captives — mainly Syrian and Iraqi soldiers — during its sweep across the two countries, and has celebrated its mass killings in extremely graphic videos. The group also beheaded American hostages James Foley and Peter Kassig, Israeli-American Steven Sotloff, and British captives David Haines and Alan Henning.

The group still holds British photojournalist John Cantlie, who has appeared in other extremist propaganda videos, and a 26-year-old American woman captured last year in Syria while working for aid groups. U.S. officials have asked that the woman not be identified out of fears for her safety.

Japan's military has been constrained by the country's commitment to pacifism in the constitution drafted during the American occupation following World War II. Abe is seeking to raise Japan's military capabilities and expand its reach, but he has ruled out sending troops overseas. It remains unclear whether Japan would ask the U.S., which has launched previous operations

to free hostages in Syria, to attempt a rescue.

Tuesday's video marks the first time an Islamic State group message publicly has demanded cash. The extremists requested \$132.5 million from Foley's parents and political concessions from Washington, though neither granted them during months of negotiations before his killing, U.S. authorities say.

The Islamic State group has suffered recent losses in airstrikes by a U.S.-led coalition, and with global oil prices being down, their revenue from selling stolen oil likely has dropped as well. The extremists also have made money from extortion, illicit businesses and other gangland-style criminal activity.

Its militants also recently released some 200 mostly elderly Yazidi hostages in Iraq, fueling speculation by Iraqi officials that the group didn't have the money to care for them.

Japan relies on the Middle East for most of the crude oil it needs to run the world's third-largest economy. It also has been working to build wider economic ties in the region, like with Abe's current Mideast tour.

This is Abe's second Mideast hostage crisis since becoming prime minister. Two years ago, al-Qaida-affiliated militants attacked an Algerian natural gas plant and the ensuing four-day hostage crisis killed 29 insurgents and 37 foreigners, including 10 Japanese who were working for a Tokyo-based engineering company, JGC Corp. Seven Japanese survived.

In 2004, followers of Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi in Iraq beheaded Japanese backpacker Shoshei Koda and wrapped his body in an American flag over Japan having troops in Iraq doing humanitarian work. A video by al-Zarqawi's group, which later became the Islamic State group, showed Koda begging Japan's then-prime minister to save him.

# Canadian troops, Islamic State exchange fire

The Associated Press

TORONTO — Canadian soldiers opened fire on Islamic State group extremists in Iraq over the last week in what was apparently the first ground firefight between Western troops and the militant group.

Brig.-Gen. Michael Rouleau, commander of special operations command, said Monday the soldiers were visiting front-line positions with Kurdish peshmarga forces when they came under mortar and machine-gun fire. He said the Canadian soldiers fired back in self-defense.

The Canadian special forces soldiers, whose job is to train and advise the Iraqi military in their battle against the Islamic State group, were at the front to help plan an Iraqi operation. Rouleau said the Canadians used sniper fire and "neutralized" the ma-

chine-gun and mortar fire without taking any casualties.

"My troops had completed a planning session with senior Iraqi leaders several kilometers behind the front lines," Rouleau said. "When they moved forward to confirm the planning at the front lines in order to visualize what they had discussed over a map, they came under immediate and effective mortar and machine-gun fire."

The general said that while Canadian soldiers are not participating in active combat, they have the right to fire back if fired upon.

Rouleau and other Canadian officials declined to say where it happened. They cited operational security.

Canada is among dozens of countries that have joined the U.S.-led coalition fighting the Islamic State militant group.

# Shiites shell Yemen president's home, take over palace

The Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen — Yemen's powerful Shiite Houthi rebels shelled the residence of the country's embattled president Tuesday and simultaneously swept into the presidential palace in the capital, Sanaa, as a top military commander warned that a full-fledged "coup" was underway.

President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi was inside the residence as it came under "heavy shelling" for half an hour but was unharmed and protected by police, officials said. In New York, the U.N. Security Council held an emergency meeting over the chaos in Sanaa.

The shelling was a dramatic development that put the U.S.-backed Hadi into a precarious position, it represented the starkest challenge to his authority since the Houthis swept into Sanaa from their northern stronghold and seized the capital in September.

Information Minister Nadia al-Sakran posted on her Twitter account that the shelling started at 3 p.m. local time "by armed forces positioned over rooftops facing" the president's house.

At the same time, Houthi rebels also raided the president's offices, sweeping into the presidential palace and looting the grounds'

arms depots, according to Col. Saleh al-Jamalani, the commander of the Presidential Protection Force that guards the palace.

"This is a coup. There is no other word to describe what is happening but a coup," al-Jamalani told The Associated Press, adding that the rebels were likely aided by insiders.

U.S. defense officials said the USS Iowa, USS Fort McHenry and USS New York are in the Red Sea on a regularly scheduled deployment. There are about 2,200 Marines from the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit embarked on the ships as part of the Iwo Jima amphibious ready group.

The USS San Diego also is in the Red Sea.

The ships arrived in the region earlier this month.

"They haven't been recently monitored," a defense official said on condition of anonymity.

A Navy official, also speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss force posture, said the ships have not yet received any formal tasking orders following the fall of the Yemeni presidential palace.

"We are monitoring" the situation, said Pentagon spokeswoman Cmdr. Elissa Smith.

Stars and Stripes reporter Jon Harper contributed to this report.

**"We will make our utmost effort to win their release as soon as possible."**

Yoshihide Suga

Japan's chief cabinet secretary

# NATION



CHRIS O'MEARA/AP

Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal, shown in November in Clearwater, Fla., said Monday during a speech in London that some countries have allowed Muslims to establish autonomous neighborhoods in cities where they govern by a harsh version of Islamic law.

## Jindal: Muslims 'no-go zones' threat to West

By PHILIP ELLIOTT  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Some countries have allowed Muslims to establish autonomous neighborhoods, because setting up your own enclave and demanding recognition of a no-go zone are exactly that," He also said Muslim leaders must condemn the people who commit terrorism in the name of faith as "murderers who are going to hell." Jindal aides said he did not make significant changes to the prepared text.

The claims on "no-go zones" are similar to those a Fox News guest made last week about places where non-Muslims were not welcome in parts of the United Kingdom such as Birmingham, and "Muslim religious police" enforce faith-based laws. Steven Emerson, an American author, told Fox News that in Britain "there are actual cities like Birmingham that are totally Muslim, where non-Muslims just simply don't go in."

Prime Minister David Cameron responded by calling Emerson a "complete idiot." Emerson later apologized and said his comments "were totally in error." Fox News also issued

apologies for broadcasting the comments.

On Tuesday, CNN reported that Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo said she intended to sue Fox News over the coverage. She said the channel "insulted" her city.

Jindal, however, used similar rhetoric during the speech, warning of "no-go zones" in London and other Western cities. Jindal's remarks come in the wake of the massacre by Islamic extremists at a Paris magazine's offices and subsequent attack on a kosher supermarket in the city in which three gunmen killed 17 people.

"I knew that by speaking the truth we were going to make people upset," Jindal told CNN during an interview from London.

"The huge issue, the big issue in nonassimilation is the fact that you have people that want to come to our country but not adopt our values, not adopt our language and in some cases want to set apart their own enclaves and hold onto their own values," said Jindal. "I think that's dangerous."

Jindal's parents immigrated to the United States from India. As a young man, Jindal converted from Hinduism to Catholicism.

Asked for evidence of "no-go zones," Jindal pointed to a weekend article in The Daily Mail, a London tabloid, that said killings, sexual abuse of minors and female genital mutilation are believed to go unreported to local police in some areas. The article did not give specific religious groups or towns.

"The bigger point is that radical Islam is a threat to our way of life," Jindal said. Asked if he regretted talking about "no-go zones," Jindal replied: "Not at all."

## Firms' ability to track site users raises HealthCare.gov concerns

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR  
AND JACK GILLUM  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A little-known side to the government's health insurance website is prompting renewed concerns about privacy, just as the White House is calling for stronger cybersecurity protections for consumers.

It works like this: When you apply for coverage on HealthCare.gov, dozens of data companies may be able to tell that you are on the site. Some can even glean details such as your age, income, ZIP code, whether you smoke or if you are pregnant.

The data firms have embedded connections on the government site. Ever-evolving technology allows for individual Internet users to be tracked, building profiles that are a vital tool for advertisers.

Connections to multiple third-party tech firms were documented by technology experts who analyzed HealthCare.gov, and confirmed by The Associated Press. There is no evidence that personal information from HealthCare.gov has been misused, but the number of outside connections is raising questions.

"As I look at vendors on a website ... they could be another potential point of failure," said corporate cybersecurity consultant Theresa Payton. "Vendor management can often be the weakest link in your privacy and security chain."

A former White House chief information officer under President George W. Bush, she said the large number of outside connections on HealthCare.gov seems like "overkill" and makes it "kind of an outlier" among government websites.

The privacy concerns come against the backdrop of President



DON RYAN/AP

Data firms have embedded connections on HealthCare.gov, the government's health insurance website, prompting privacy concerns.

Barack Obama's new initiative to protect personal data online, an expected highlight of his State of the Union message scheduled for Tuesday night. The administration is getting the health care website ready for the final enrollment drive of 2015, aiming to have more than 9 million people signed up by Feb. 15 for subsidized private coverage.

Medicare spokesman Aaron Albright said outside vendors "are prohibited from using information from these tools on HealthCare.gov for their companies' purposes." The government uses them to measure the performance of HealthCare.gov so consumers get "a simpler, more streamlined and intuitive experience," he said.

The administration did not explain how it ensures that privacy and security policies are being followed.

Third-party outfits that track website performance are a standard part of e-commerce. HealthCare.gov's privacy policy says in boldface that "no personally identifiable information is collected"

by these Web measurement tools.

But in a recent visit to the site, the AP found that certain personal details — including age, income, and whether you smoke — were being passed along likely without your knowledge to advertising and Web analytics sites.

Google said Monday it doesn't use that kind of data or allow its systems to target ads based on health or medical history information.

"When we learn of possible violations of this policy, we investigate and take swift action," the company said in a statement.

Still, the outside connections surprised a tech expert who evaluated HealthCare.gov's performance for the AP.

"Anything that is health-related is something very private," said Mehdi Daoudi, CEO of Catchpoint Systems. "Personally, I look at this, and I am on a government website, and I don't know what is going on between the government and Facebook, and Google, and Twitter. Why is that there?"

## Iran sanctions fight kicks off in Senate

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Congress and President Barack Obama are on a fast track toward confrontation over sanctions on Iran.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee's hearing Wednesday on Iranian sanctions is the opening round of the new Republican-led Congress' first foreign policy fight with the White House. Obama came out swinging last Friday, telling Congress he would veto any Iran sanctions bill that lands on his desk. "Hold your fire," Obama told Congress while standing at the White House alongside British Prime Minister David Cameron, who took the unusual step of calling U.S. senators to lobby against a sanctions bill.

Iran claims its nuclear program is peaceful and offers to produce energy for civilian use. Talks have been extended until July, with the goal of reaching a framework for a deal by the end of March. Both Obama and Iranian President Hassan Rouhani face stiff opposition to negotiations from conservatives in their respective homelands. Moreover, a Republican victory in the 2016 presidential election would make

renewed talks with Iran unlikely.

Obama said if there is new sanctions legislation, Iran could walk away and say the "United States was operating in bad faith and blew up the deal." Republicans worry that the Iranians are just buying time so they can continue enhancing their nuclear programs. Freshman Republican Sen. Tom Cotton, of Arkansas, has gone so far as to call the negotiations a "dangerous farce."

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## NATION

# 1 dead in Ohio overpass collapse

By DAN SEWELL  
The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — A collapsed overpass covered southbound lanes of Interstate 75 with hundreds of tons of concrete and steel Tuesday following a construction accident that killed a worker and injured a truck driver.

The Ohio Department of Transportation said the busy artery through downtown Cincinnati will be closed at least two to three days.

"The debris needs to be removed and we have to determine if there is damage to the pavement," spokeswoman Sharon Smigielski said. "The cause is still under investigation."

Work was going on Monday night to remove an overhead exit ramp that had recently been replaced by a new one when it pancaked down about 10:30 p.m. on top of southbound lanes some 5 miles north of the Ohio River.

"Something happened and it collapsed," she said.

A tractor-trailer driver suffered minor injuries when his rig ran into the collapsed section. Cincinnati's police chief says the driver probably was seconds away from serious harm. His and the construction worker's names



LIZ DUFOUR, THE CINCINNATI ENQUIRER/AP

**Crews work to clear the aftermath of a bridge collapse on Interstate 75 in Cincinnati on Tuesday. The collapse killed a worker and injured a truck driver.**

were not immediately released.

The ramp had been a left-hand exit from northbound 75 that carried traffic over the southbound lanes to Hopple Street. The new ramp exits to the right from northbound 75 near the University of Cincinnati.

Commuters to downtown Tuesday morning were diverted to Interstate 71 south, where traffic slowed through the morning, while motorists headed to Kentucky could take the Interstate 275 loop around the city.

The ramp replacement is part of a yearslong project to increase

capacity and safety on a congested, accident-prone section of the interstate. Nighttime closures of northbound I-75 for work had been planned for this week, but ODOT officials said that schedule could be changed.

Cincinnati Police Chief Jeff Blackwell said late Monday that something went "terribly wrong."

The truck driver was taken to the University of Cincinnati Medical Center with minor injuries.

"The big-rig driver is very lucky; in a matter of seconds his fate would have probably been

different," Blackwell said.

A nearby resident said the collapse rattled his house.

"Just heard a thud, and the house shook," Casey Wright told WLWT-TV. "It felt like an earthquake. I'm sure the whole neighborhood felt it."

The Cincinnati Fire Department said the worker's body was removed early Tuesday after airbags were used to lift the wreckage.

The collapse also caused buses that use I-75 and nearby streets to be rerouted.

## 1 of actor's victims rejects call for pardon

The Associated Press

BOSTON — A victim of one of Mark Wahlberg's racially motivated attacks as a teenage delinquent in racially divided Boston in the 1980s insists he shouldn't be granted a pardon for his crimes.

Kristyn Atwood was among a group of mostly black fourth-grade students on a field trip to the beach in 1986 when Wahlberg and his white friends began hurling rocks and shouting racial epithets as they chased them down the street.

"I don't think he should get a pardon," Atwood, now 38 and living in Georgia, said in an interview with The Associated Press.

"I don't really care who he is. It doesn't make him any exception. If you're a racist, you're always going to be a racist. And for him to want to erase it, I just think it's wrong," she said.

Mary Belmonte, the white teacher who brought the students to the neighborhood beach that day, sees things differently. "I believe in forgiveness," she said. "He was just a young kid — a punk — in the mean streets of Boston. ... He was just a follower doing what the other kids were doing."

The 43-year-old former rapper, Calvin Klein model and "Boogie Nights" actor wants official forgiveness for a separate, more severe attack in 1988, in which he assaulted two Vietnamese men while trying to steal beer. That attack sent one of the men to a hospital and landed Wahlberg in prison.

Wahlberg, in a pardon application filed in November and pending before the state parole board, acknowledges he was a teenage delinquent mixed up in drugs, alcohol and the wrong crowd. He points to his ensuing successful acting career, restaurant ventures and philanthropic work with troubled youths as evidence he's turned his life around.

Court documents in the 1986 attack identify Wahlberg among a group of white boys who harassed the school group as they were leaving the beach in Dorchester, a mixed-but racially divided Boston neighborhood.

Judith Beals, a former state prosecutor involved in the cases, said Wahlberg's crimes stand out because he violated the injunction with an even more violent attack on people of yet another race.

"It was a hate crime and that's exactly what should be on his record forever," Atwood said.

## Jury selection underway in '79 case of missing first-grader

By JENNIFER PELTZ  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — For years, Etan Patz' parents were sure they knew who had kidnapped the first-grader on his way to school in 1979, and they devoted themselves to trying to hold him accountable.

Testimony will soon start in the murder trial they so long awaited — with a different man at the defense table, a man never suspected until he gave a 2011 confession he now disavows.

The trial partly reflects Stan and Julie Patz' efforts to keep the investigation going and make missing children a national priority.

But it stands to be both searing and complex for the parents, who had pressed authorities to prosecute the earlier suspect — a convicted Pennsylvania child molester — and even brought their own wrongful-death suit against him.

"Sometimes I think the worst thing that could happen," Julie Patz once said, "would be never

knowing what happened to Etan."

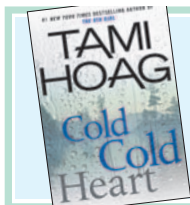
Jury selection is underway for Pedro Hernandez' trial in one of the first missing-child cases ever featured on milk cartons. Hernandez, a former shop worker in the Patzes' neighborhood, denies the charges. His lawyers say his confessions were fiction spurred by mental illness.

The Patzes declined to comment on the case last week. Julie Patz is expected to testify; it's not clear whether her husband will.

The Patzes — he a photogra-

pher, she a day care provider, together parents of three — became the very visible center of an exhaustive investigation after 6-year-old Etan vanished while walking two blocks to a school bus stop on May 25, 1979. Their loft in Manhattan's then-edgy SoHo neighborhood became a makeshift police command post and media center, their phone an ever-ringing hotline.

Their faces were suddenly a nation's portrait of parental agony that could strike anyone.



*Dana Nolan was a promising young TV reporter until a serial killer tried to add her to his victims. Struggling with post-traumatic stress syndrome, plagued by flashbacks and fearsome nightmares, Dana returns to her hometown and instead of peace finds anything but the comfort she expects.*

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## NATION



GLENN A. MILLER, (ANNAPOLIS, MD.) CAPITAL GAZETTE/AP

Firefighters battle a four-alarm blaze at a home in Annapolis, Md., on Monday.

## 6 believed victims of Md. blaze

By BRIAN WITTE  
AND KASEY JONES  
The Associated Press

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — The relatives of six family members unaccounted for after a massive fire gutted a waterfront mansion believe they were inside at the time of the blaze, a fire official said Tuesday.

The charred multimillion-dollar mansion near Maryland's capital is the focus of the search for the six missing family members, said Capt. Russ Davies, a spokesman for the Anne Arundel County Fire Department.

Davies has declined to identify the family members. On Tuesday, he wouldn't give further details about what their relatives said or why they believe the family was inside the mansion.

Davies said a search for the missing family members will begin when crews stabilize the structure and pump out tens of thousands of gallons of water from the basement — likely Wednesday.

The blaze reduced the mansion to a scorched stone framework Monday. Teddy bears and flowers now rest near the front gate, and teary-eyed neighbors have stopped by.

Federal investigators were traveling to the scene from across the country Tuesday to figure out



TIM PRATT, (ANNAPOLIS, MD.) CAPITAL GAZETTE/AP

**The seven-bedroom, 16,000-square-foot mansion was reduced to a scorched stone framework by the fire.**

what caused the fire, which gutted the 16,000-square-foot home with seven bedrooms and 7½ baths. The flames took hours to put out after the fire began before dawn Monday on the outskirts of Annapolis.

"We know who's unaccounted for," Davies said. "If you look at the damage, you know, it would not be a stretch to think that if there were occupants that they did not survive the fire."

The fire was initially reported about 3:30 a.m. Monday by an alarm monitoring company and a neighbor who spotted flames at the mansion.

Online records of the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation list Don and Sandra Pyle as owners of the home, which the records say is their principal residence. Don Pyle was named chief operating officer of ScienceLogic last fall. The company, based in Reston, Va., makes software for cloud computing.

Some 85 firefighters had to be called in from several jurisdictions to fight the fire. Davies said that because there was no fire hydrant in the area, firefighters shuttled water tankers to the site and stationed a fire boat at a pier near the property to bring in water.

## Jury selection begins in Colo. shooting trial

By SADIE GURMAN  
AND DAN ELLIOTT  
The Associated Press

DENVER — Jury selection got underway Tuesday in a death penalty case involving one of the worst mass shootings in U.S. history: an attack that left 12 dead and 70 wounded in a Colorado movie theater.

The trial will focus on the question of whether James Holmes was insane when he barged into the packed theater, clad in combat gear, and opened fire on moviegoers in July 2012. Experts say it is rare to have a mass shooter appear in court to face charges — many either are killed by police or commit suicide.

"The public is going to get an insight into the mind of a killer who says he doesn't know right from wrong," a Chicago-based jury consultant said.

The first step began Tuesday, when 9,000 prospective jurors — what experts say is the largest jury pool in U.S. history — began arriving at the courthouse in Centennial, in suburban Denver.

Whittling those numbers to the 12 jurors and 12 alternates is expected to take months. The trial could last until October.

In the 2½ years since the shooting, the case has sparked an emotionally charged debate, with his parents begging for a plea deal that would save his life and many survivors and family members of victims demanding that he be put to death.

Holmes, 27, was arrested as he stripped off his combat gear in the parking lot of the Century 16 movie theater in Aurora after he opened fire at the midnight show-

ing of a new Batman movie. He later pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity to multiple counts of first-degree murder and attempted murder.

Under Colorado law, defendants are not legally liable for their acts if their minds are so "diseased" that they cannot distinguish right from wrong.

Part of the reason the case has dragged on so long is the battle over whether that standard

**'The public is going to get an insight into the mind of a killer who says he doesn't know right from wrong.'**

Alan  
Tuerkheimer  
jury consultant

could take until June to find the jurors and alternates who were not biased by the widespread news coverage of the shooting. Equally challenging will be finding jurors who were not personally affected by the attack.

During the selection process, Holmes' attorneys will focus on picking jurors who are morally opposed to capital punishment, even as prosecutors fight to ensure those on the panel are "death penalty eligible." Meaning they would be open to executing Holmes.

## Last trip for Calif. 'Freedom Train'

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — The last of the nation's "Freedom Train" rides paying tribute to Martin Luther King Jr. made its final trip in California on Monday after more than 30 years of operation.

Organizers said they're ending the annual train ride — one of more than two dozen "Freedom Trains" launched nationwide by King's widow, Coretta Scott King — because of declining ridership.

"It's a really sad day," said Kathleen Flynn, president of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Association of Santa Clara Valley, which organized the ride.

She said people now have many other events they can attend on the holiday. "It's just a different time and different world; people are just not interested," she said about the train ride.

Coretta Scott King launched the trains to commemorate the march her husband led from Selma to



KARL MUNDON, SAN JOSE (CALIF.) MERCURY NEWS/AP

**Rohit Khavre carries his daughter, Zoya, 3, off the "Freedom Train" after its arrival in San Francisco on Monday.**

Montgomery, Ala., nearly 50 years ago. The march demanding voting rights for blacks proved instrumental in the eventual passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

The train carrying about 1,400 people left from San Jose and arrived in San Francisco. People sang during the journey and heard stories about the civil rights movement.

## Ala. driver ticketed for eating

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

ATLANTA — Maybe he can get Mayor McChesney to put in a good word with the judge.

Madison Turner told Atlanta's Channel 2 Action News he had no idea he could be ticketed after Cobb, Ga., police pulled him over last week for eating while driving.

But that's just what happened to the Alabama man, who's due in court Feb. 3.

"The officer explained to me that he observed me eating a burger for 2 miles," Turner said. "He said specifically three times, 'You can't just go down the road eating a hamburger.'"

The law cited by the ticketing officer requires drivers to "exercise due care in operating a motor

vehicle on the highways of this state and shall not engage in any actions which shall distract such driver from the safe operation of such vehicle."

Atlanta DUI attorney William "Bubba" Head, who is not representing Turner, told the station he's never seen the law cited unless it contributed to an accident.

"If this was the law, I'd have to hire more attorneys because everybody does it, including me," he said. "Maybe if you had a giant pizza in both hands and you weren't holding the wheel, or maybe if you had a watermelon — half watermelon — and you were just diving into it holding it with both hands, maybe that would be something."

Cobb police declined comment.



## SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

# Robots talk to fellow robots

By YURI KAGEYAMA  
The Associated Press

**TOKYO** — The scientist behind a new talking robot in Japan says people should stop expecting robots to understand them, and instead try to chime in with robotic conversations.

Hiroshi Ishiguro's 11-inch-tall, button-eyed Sota, which stands for "social talker," is programmed to mainly talk with a fellow robot and won't be trying too hard to understand human speech — the major, and often frustrating, drawback of companion robots.

Sota, shown to reporters at a Tokyo museum Tuesday, goes on sale in July for under \$850. To fully enjoy its features, one would have to buy at least two of them, although people can buy just one.

"Don't stop at just two. Please buy three or four," said Ishiguro, a professor at Osaka University who has previously shown a variety of robots that look eerily human, including one that's his double.



Japanese android expert Hiroshi Ishiguro, left, talks with talking robot Sota, right, Android robot Otonaroid, second left, and talking robots called CommU, center and second right, during a press event at the National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation Miraiaku in Tokyo on Tuesday.

Ishiguro also demonstrated a more elaborate robot, CommU, which stands for communication unity. It will cost five times as much as Sota.

The news conference to introduce Sota and CommU was led by two other humanoids, which appeared to talk with the two newest additions to Japan's robot pantheon.

Robot-maker Vstone, which simplified Ishiguro's research to come up with commercial products, expects to sell 3,000 Sota robots in the first year, mostly to businesses. They could be used for tasks such as drawing attention to products on display.

Japan is a leading maker of robots, and its repertoire has ranged

from industrial robots to whimsical toys.

Internet and telecommunications company Softbank Corp. will start selling Pepper, a humanoid it claims is designed to read human emotions, in Japan next month for \$1,700, possibly heralding the era of everyday robots here.

Ishiguro said the idea behind Sota and CommU was similar to watching chattering children. An adult joining such a conversation would have low expectations and be engaging in dialogue for the fun, he said.

CommU is designed to make eye contact with rolling eyeballs, a feature Ishiguro believes is important to make conversations feel real. In a demonstration, one

CommU said to another CommU, "Do you know Denmark?"

It replied: "I love Denmark," to which the first said, "I love Denmark, too."

Ishiguro insists the robots can do more than just agree with each other and can be programmed to carry on various kinds of conversations, including confrontational chatter.

But the main point is that people should stop expecting robots to live up to human expectations or to merely do useful chores.

"Voice recognition has always been very difficult for robots," Ishiguro said. "Human beings should instead adjust to what robots can do."

## Modular robots allow for high-level innovation

By LAURA BIKO  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

**PITTSBURGH** — The name "Snake Monster" is a bit misleading, but Howie Choset no longer has the power to change it.

"I'm not allowed to name robots anymore," joked Choset, 46, a robotics professor at Carnegie Mellon University. "I kept giving them names like Peanut and Shmookie."

So now the Snake Monster, which looks more like a six-legged spider, lives in Choset's lab, its name derived from the modular "snake robot" technology that gives the robot its legs.

Modular robots allow robotists to rapidly reconfigure their creations. Having a framework of customizable parts in place allows scientists to add or change the robots' capabilities without having to design an entirely new robot.

The advance means robotists working with modules can focus on high-level innovation. They no longer have to figure out how to make a robot function at its most basic. In addition to programming it with new capabilities, sharply reducing the timeline for developing a robot.

Snake Monster, for instance, was built in six months and programmed in only one week, Choset said. Some robotists can spend four years developing a robot while working toward their doctorates.

At the heart of the achievement are snake robots: small, segmented robots comprising interconnected modules. They can climb up legs or trees, explore pipes and crawl over a wide range of terrain.

Their practical usefulness comes from their ability to access places that larger, wheeled robots cannot fit or navigate in, said Matt Travers, 32, a project scientist at CMU.

One snake robot explored caves too unstable for humans to enter in Egypt shortly before that country's revolution, Travers said. Others have inspected power plants. Some could assist with search-and-rescue missions or gather information for the military.

A company called Medrobotics, which Choset helped found, has commercialized the technology for use in the medical field. Snake robots have been used in minimally invasive surgeries in Europe, where they help surgeons see otherwise hard-to-access parts of the body.

"These (snake robots) can be used now. It's a matter of finding people who want them," Choset said.

Snake Monster's scientific ramifications lie in the way it moves. It senses when forces are applied to it, and then works to balance those forces out. The result is a robot that will walk when pushed or pulled, following behind its tether like a reluctant dog.

## Self-taught computer program finds poker strategy

By MALCOLM RITTER  
The Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — A computer program that taught itself to play poker has created nearly the best possible strategy for one version of the game, showing the value of techniques that may prove useful to help decision-making in medicine and other areas.

The program considered 24 trillion simulated poker hands per second for two months, probably playing more poker than all humanity has ever experienced, said Michael Bowling, who led the project.

The resulting strategy still won't win every game because of bad luck in the cards. But over the long run — thousands of games — it won't lose money.

"We can go against the best (players) in the world, and the humans are going to be the ones that lose money," said Bowling, of the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada.

In any case, Bowling doubts the poker strategy will let anybody make a fortune on the game. It applies only to heads-up limit Texas Hold'em, a game which has waned in popularity over the past seven years or so, he said. Even



JOHN ULAN, UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA (CANADA)/AP

University of Alberta researcher Michael Bowling, left, and team member Michael Johanson have produced a computer program that considered 24 trillion simulated poker hands per second for two months.

online, the stakes tend to be small and "you'd be winning a few dollars, not raking in millions."

He and colleagues reported their work in a paper released last week by the journal Science.

Poker has long been a proving ground for the mathematical approach to decision-making called

game theory, and Bowling's paper introduces some techniques that could become useful in other situations. He is investigating the possibility of helping doctors determine proper insulin doses for diabetic patients, for example. Game theory has also been used to schedule security patrols, and

it has implications for other areas such as developing strategies for negotiations, auctions, cybersecurity, designing drugs and fighting disease pandemics.

In the two-player game, each contestant creates a poker hand from two cards he is dealt face-down plus five other cards placed on the table face-up. Players place bets before the face-up cards are laid out, and then again as each card is revealed. The size of the wagers is fixed.

Bowling said the computer's strategy is far too complicated for anybody to memorize, with about 1,000 times the amount of information in the English-language Wikipedia. But his university has created a website where people can ask it for advice and even play against it.

While scientists have created poker-playing programs for years, Bowling's result stands out because it comes so close to "solving" — specifying the game, which essentially means creating the optimal strategy. Poker is hard to solve because it involves imperfect information, where a player doesn't know everything that has happened in the game he is playing — specifically, what cards the opponent has been dealt.

## WORLD

# Chechens arrested in France amid attack fears

The Associated Press

PARIS — Five Russians have been arrested in southern France, including one with a cache of explosives, a local mayor said Tuesday as four other men appeared at a court in Paris, the first to face charges in the Paris terrorism attacks.

The reports came as the French prime minister asked his nation to do some soul-searching about the country's deep ethnic divisions and declared that fighting hatred, anti-Semitism and racism was an urgent priority, especially in France's impoverished housing projects.

Beziers Mayor Robert Menard confirmed the arrests Tuesday in Beziers, and Montpellier of five men of Chechen origin and said the men arrested in Beziers had been a resident "for some time."

Midi Libre, the local paper, said an explosives cache was found in Beziers near a stadium, but prosecutor Yvon Calvet told Midi Libre it wasn't immediately clear whether a terrorism attack was

planned. Prosecutors planned a news conference later Tuesday.

France has been on high alert since three days of terror in the Paris region left 20 people dead, including the three gunmen, earlier this month.

The Paris prosecutor's office said the four men in court Tuesday were suspected of providing logistical support to Amedy Coulibaly, one of the dead terrorists.

Coulibaly shot a policewoman to death on the outskirts of Paris and then seized hostages inside a kosher supermarket, killing four before he was killed by police. It is not clear whether the four suspects, all in their 20s, were involved in plotting the attacks or even aware of Coulibaly's plans.

The Paris prosecutor's office said five others arrested in the investigation were released without charge.

No one has been charged for direct involvement in the Jan. 7-9 terrorist attacks. Coulibaly claimed allegiance to the Islamic State group while the two brothers

## 200 police raid homes in Germany

BERLIN — Some 200 police officers raided 13 homes in Berlin and elsewhere in Germany on Tuesday in connection with the arrests last week of two suspected members of an Islamic terrorism cell.

Police spokesman Michael Gassen said the raids were mostly on close associates of the pair.

"We were looking for further evidence in connection with last week's arrests," Gassen said, adding that the people targeted Tuesday were not accused of any wrongdoing. Most were members of the same mosque in Berlin's Moskit neighborhood as the two suspects.

Last week's raids were part of

ers who attacked the Charlie Hebdo newspaper said they were backed by al-Qaida in Yemen.

Prime Minister Manuel Valls told journalists Tuesday that the

a monthslong investigation into a small group of Turkish extremists based in Berlin.

Police on Friday arrested the group's leader, identified only as Ismet D., 41, in accordance with privacy laws. He is accused of recruiting largely Turkish and Russian nationals to fight against "infidels" in Syria. They also arrested Emin F., 43, who is accused of being in charge of finances.

Authorities said there's no evidence the group was planning attacks inside Germany, but that it procured funding to help send fighters to Syria, as well as military materials like night-vision equipment.

They said the arrests were unrelated to the recent attacks in Paris or raids in Belgium.

From The Associated Press

attacks should force France to look at the "apartheid" within. The conservative Socialist whose hard line on Islamic extremism has won many fans said he wasn't

making excuses for crime or terrorism, "but we also have to look at the reality of our country."

Valls said memories have dimmed of the three weeks of riots by disaffected youths in 2005 that shook France.

"And yet, the stigmas remain ... a territorial, social and ethnic apartheid that has imposed itself on our country," he said. "The social misery is compounded by the daily discriminations, because someone does not have the right name, the right color of skin, or because she is a woman."

In Athens, an Algerian man suspected of jihadi terrorist links in Belgium appeared before a Greek prosecutor for an extradition hearing on being sent to Belgium. The suspect, whose name was not released, was detained Saturday in Athens, where he lives.

Belgium launched a large anti-terrorism sweep last week, during which two suspects were killed and one wounded, that netted several returnees from Islamic holy war in Syria.

# Israel on alert for Hezbollah retaliation

The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israel is on high alert for possible attacks from the Lebanon-based militant group Hezbollah following an airstrike on Hezbollah fighters in Syria, Israeli defense officials said Tuesday.

Israel has boosted deployment of its "Iron Dome" anti-missile aerial defense system along its northern frontier, which borders Lebanon and Syria, and has increased surveillance activities in the area, the officials said. Israel's Security Cabinet is scheduled to meet to discuss a potential escalation in violence, they said.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss security deliberations publicly.

Hezbollah claims Israel carried out Sunday's strike on the Syrian side of the Golan Heights, which killed a prominent Hezbollah fighter, a senior Iranian general and five other Hezbollah members. Israel has neither confirmed nor denied its role in the strike.

The prominent fighter killed, Jihad Mughniyeh, was the son of Imad Mughniyeh — a top Hezbollah operative widely considered to have built Hezbollah's military operations infrastructure and the second-most revered figure inside Hezbollah. He was assassinated in 2008 in Damascus in a bombing that Hezbollah says was carried out by Israel's Mossad spy agency.

Thousands of mourners marched in a Beirut funeral procession Monday for Jihad Mughniyeh, chanting "Death to Israel."



AMEL ENRICH/AP

## Heavy rainfall floods homes in Bosnia

Amir Secerbegovic, an unemployed construction worker, clears floodwaters from his home in the Sarajevo suburb of Osijek, Bosnia, on Tuesday. Heavy overnight rainfall caused rivers to rise in the Sarajevo area on Monday and flood homes in the suburbs for the fifth time in 20 months.

## Ukraine, rebels both claim to control Donetsk airport

The Associated Press

DONETSK, Ukraine — At least three civilians were killed in shelling Tuesday in eastern Ukraine as fighting continued between government and rebel forces in the separatist-held city of Donetsk.

Fighting spiked over the weekend in the bitter battle for control over Donetsk's now-shattered airport. The level of artillery exchanges has abated since that peak.

Associated Press reporters saw

the bodies of two people killed while waiting for a bus Tuesday. Separatist authorities said another person died from an attack elsewhere in the city.

The airport, reduced to a wreck by months of heavy fighting, has been the epicenter of hostilities due to its symbolic importance and strategic location on the edge of the main rebel-controlled city.

The airport has become a symbol of Ukrainian combat valor and its loss would be a major blow to national pride.

The rebels say they have fully seized the airport in recent fighting, but Ukrainian officials reject the claim. They say Ukrainian troops are still holding out in the wreckage of the new terminal, a steel-and-glass showcase for the UEFA Euro 2012 soccer championship hosted by Ukraine.

Three Ukrainian servicemen were killed and 66 wounded in the previous 24 hours, military spokesman Andriy Lysenko told reporters, but he would not say how many of those casualties oc-

curred at the airport.

On Monday, the rebels blew up part of the new terminal, wounding many Ukrainian troops with debris, Yuriy Biryukov, an adviser to Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, wrote on his Facebook account. He said some wounded soldiers were evacuated from the airport but did not say how many troops remained.

It was impossible independently to determine whose forces were currently in control of various sections of the airport.

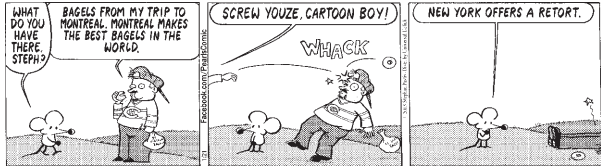
Frazz



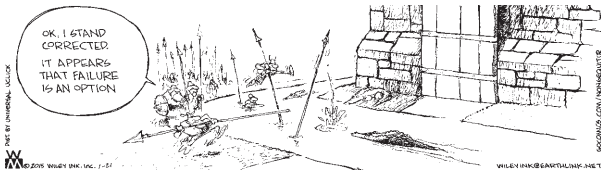
Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



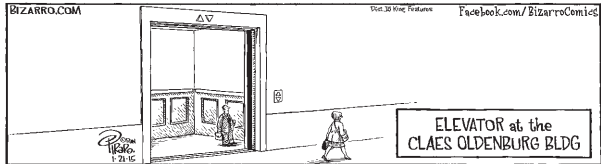
Get Fuzzy



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



# Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
18						19	20			
		21		22	23	24				
25	26	27		28	29		30	31	32	
33				34			35			
36				37			38			
		39	40		41		42			
43	44			45			46		47	48
49										
50				51	52	53				
54				55			56			
57				58			59			

## ACROSS

- Bus. abbr.
- Scatter seeds
- Lovers' quarrel
- 12th victim
- Tiny legume
- Approximately
- Type of herb
- Taleteller
- Bristles
- Shrimp recipe
- Constellation component
- Bobby of hockey lore
- Aching
- Hoedown housing
- Indivisible
- Expert
- Settle a debt
- Sermon subject
- "Indeed"
- Fix a text
- Maintained
- Historic time
- Showroom sample
- Cavalry weapons
- eyed (watchful)
- Neural transmitter
- Ballplayer nicknamed "Charlie Hustle"
- Salamander
- "Catcher in the —"
- Mountain goat

## DOWN

- 2006 Pixar movie
- Reed instrument
- Take a break
- Satisfy
- Hot tub
- the ramparts
- Methods
- Sun-related
- Flower found on a path?
- Memo abbr.
- Spelling of reality TV
- Encountered
- Rabbit fur
- Sleeping, perhaps
- Fast
- Agent
- Raw rock
- Pasadena arena
- Assess
- Zilch
- Finish
- Caboose's position
- Awful
- Monopoly payments
- West of Hollywood
- Sensible
- Ice skating leap
- Agile
- Asian desert
- Addict
- Send private messages
- Storm center
- Coffee break hour

## Answer to Previous Puzzle

A	C	H	E	D	I	M	C	H	E	N
W	H	I	R	A	K	A	H	E	R	E
L	I	M	B	E	R	E	D	A	L	G
				I	N	K	D	E	S	P
A	L	O	U	D	L	E	G	S		
W	O	R	M	L	I	N	G	E	R	E
O	C	T	D	I	K	E	S			
L	I	S	T	E	N	E	D			
		A	B	C	S		C	A	L	M
P	R	O	N	T	O		D	A	Y	
A	U	L	D	L	I	O	N	I	Z	E
I	S	L	E		N	I	L		N	O
R	E	A	M		S	I	T		G	O

## 1-21

## CRYPTOQUIP

Q G M E M D M U H F B P Q L R  
P T V Q D S P Y A Y B B R A P H Q X G  
R S S X F D E R T U M P R T . A M T R P Y  
B Q X P R D P Y L V P M B R Y H T Y R ?  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINCE I SHOULD'VE  
BLENDED IN THESE TWO NEW VOCAL TRACKS  
LAST WEEK, THIS IS AN OVERDUE OVERDUB.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals O



## BUSINESS/WEATHER

## Cheap oil has significant ripple effect

By HENRY C. JACKSON  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Cheap oil doesn't only mean cheaper gas in the tank. It means that a car dealer in Illinois is shuffling the inventory of models he'll be selling, that more students in Wisconsin may get school-provided iPads, that some planned projects in a Southern California city will get delayed and that some expected oilfield hiring in North Dakota and Texas may not happen.

In ways large and small, plummeting oil prices are now reverberating through businesses, towns, schools and family budgets, causing confusion and changing plans. With prices having fallen by nearly half in just six months, the potential impact has been sudden and wide-ranging.

"I'm always chasing my tail," said Ron Hicks, who has sold cars for 10 years in Galesburg, Ill., and is out for 38 years and suddenly finds himself with too many smaller, fuel-efficient cars on his

City Select lot when trucks and sports cars might sell better. "I need to be smarter even than I've been in the past. I need to find the balance."

Fuel is a major cost item for many businesses and local governments, and the recent changes

**'This pullback caught most everyone by surprise.'**

Brian M. Youngberg  
Edward Jones

a medium-sized city with police cars and garbage trucks to fuel, gasoline costs can amount to several hundred thousand dollars annually.

But oil is also a revenue source in more than two dozen states, especially for about a third of them. "This pullback caught most

everyone by surprise," Brian M. Youngberg, a senior energy analyst for Edward Jones, wrote in an analysis last week.

The stakes are especially high for transportation companies. But at Delta Airlines, which now projects \$1.7 billion in fuel savings in 2015, no adjustments are envisioned, at least in ticket prices.

In states like North Dakota, Oklahoma and Texas, which have reaped the benefits of a domestic oil boom, the retrenchment is beginning.

"Drilling budgets are being slashed across the board," said Ron Ness, president of the North Dakota Petroleum Council, which represents more than 500 companies working in the state's Bakken oil patch.

Drilling and extraction jobs that soared from 293,000 to more than 586,000 since 2003 are now heading back down.

In Houston, the self-declared "Energy Capital of the World," the local Association of Realtors predicts home sales will slide be-

tween 10 percent and 12 percent in 2015. Also, a handful of housing projects being built on the fringes of the Bakken oil patch in North Dakota have paused or slowed down as developers reassess.

In many cities, budgets are back on the drawing board.

In Long Beach, Calif., where man-made islands built to pump oil sit just off shore, the city is deciding which capital projects can still move forward. Oil revenue pays for the basketball courts, pools and other amenities on the waterfront, but there is only \$95 million on hand for \$232 million in work authorized.

But in the West Allis-West Milwaukee school district in Wisconsin, \$16,000 in unexpected fuel savings is accelerating an initiative to provide iPads for all 10,000 students.

"It's definitely better to be able to use that money on textbooks and instructional materials in classrooms rather than gasoline," said interim Superintendent Paul Strobel.

## EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Jan. 21)	\$1.1902
Dollar buys (Jan. 21)	€0.8402
British pound (Jan. 21)	\$1.56
Japanese yen (Jan. 21)	¥114.00
South Korean won (Jan. 21)	₩1,058.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3769
British pound	\$1.5180
Canada (dollar)	1.2074
China (Yuan)	6.2165
Denmark (Krone)	6.4160
Egypt (Pound)	7.7856
Euro	\$1.1590/0.8728
Hong Kong (Dollar)	0.7930
Hungary (Forint)	276.29
Israel (Shekel)	3.2820
Japan (Yen)	118.44
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2939
Norway (Krone)	7.6113
Philippines (Peso)	44.78
Poland (Zloty)	3.7454
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7556
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3385
South Korea (Won)	1,088.49
Switzerland (Franc)	0.8706
Thailand (Baht)	32.71
Turkey (Lira)	2.3499

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., currencies of the United Kingdom, which has your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar except for the Japanese yen, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

## INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
3-month bill	0.75
Federal funds market rate	0.12
3-month bill	0.01
30-year bond	2.45

## WEATHER OUTLOOK



## Wednesday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Able, Texas	54	36	Cld	Chatanooga	53	39	Pdly	Fort Wayne	33	27	Snow	Louisville	45	35	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	35	26	Snow	Chicago	34	29	Cldy	Fresno	58	41	Rain	Lubbock	50	33	Cldy
Albany, N.Y.	29	9	Pdly	Cincinnati	42	33	Cldy	Goodland	36	24	Pdly	Macon	65	39	Cir
Albuquerque	47	33	Cir	Cleveland	31	23	Snow	Grand Rapids	29	23	Cldy	Medford	49	34	Cir
Allentown, Pa.	31	23	Snow	Colorado Springs	26	18	Cldy	Great Falls	31	16	Pdly	Memphis	59	37	Pdly
Anchorage	36	29	Snow	Columbia, S.C.	68	42	Pdly	Green Bay	27	19	Snow	Miami Beach	78	65	Cldy
Asheville	55	36	Pdly	Columbia, Ga.	64	43	Cir	Greensboro, N.C.	58	41	Pdly	Midland-Odesa	49	35	Cldy
Atlanta	60	42	Pdly	Concord, N.H.	39	31	Cldy	Hartford	32	27	Snow	Milwaukee	32	27	Snow
Atlantic City	36	26	Snow	Corpus Christi	67	54	Cldy	Helena	27	12	Pdly	Missoula	29	15	Cldy
Austin	64	46	Cldy	Dallas-Ft. Worth	57	42	Cldy	Honolulu	86	66	Cldy	Mpls-St Paul	29	24	Cldy
Baltimore	37	31	Snow	Dayton	37	30	Cldy	Houston	65	51	Cldy	Montgomery	64	40	Cir
Baton Rouge	69	48	Pdly	Daytona Beach	71	53	Pdly	Huntsville	56	38	Pdly	Nashville	55	36	Pdly
Bilings	33	17	Cir	Denver	33	21	Cldy	Indianapolis	38	30	Cldy	New Orleans	69	48	Cldy
Birmingham	59	39	Pdly	Des Moines	37	31	Cldy	Jacksonville	61	40	Cir	New York City	34	23	Cldy
Bismarck	27	20	Cldy	Detroit	27	19	Cldy	Jacksonville	69	47	Pdly	Newark	34	23	Snow
Boise	34	26	Pdly	Duluth	28	22	Cldy	Juneau	42	34	Rain	Norfolk, Va.	53	40	Cldy
Boston	33	19	Pdly	El Paso	55	37	Cldy	Kansas City	44	30	Pdly	North Platte	38	18	Pdly
Bridgeport	33	19	Cldy	Elkins	39	32	Snow	Key West	78	68	Pdly	Oklahoma City	31	23	Cldy
Brownsville	73	57	Cldy	Erie	28	17	Snow	Knoxville	50	36	Cldy	Omaha	38	28	Cldy
Buffalo	27	11	Cldy	Eugene	48	31	Cldy	Lake Charles	68	48	Pdly	Orlando	77	53	Pdly
Burlington, Vt.	21	10	Cldy	Evansville	48	32	Cldy	Lansing	44	33	Cldy	Padsuch	50	32	Cldy
Caribou, Maine	35	27	Cir	Fairbanks	0	-10	Cir	Las Vegas	64	47	Pdly	Pendleton	36	26	Cldy
Charleston, S.C.	69	44	Cldy	Fargo	28	24	Cldy	Lexington	44	33	Cldy	Pesera	39	28	Pdly
Charlotte, N.C.	69	44	Cldy	Flagstaff	45	28	Cldy	Lincoln	41	27	Cldy	Philadelphia	36	29	Snow
Charlotte, W.Va.	44	38	Cldy	Flint	27	14	Cldy	Little Rock	56	37	Pdly	Phoenix	73	52	Cldy
Charlotte, N.C.	61	40	Pdly	Fort Smith	58	33	Pdly	Los Angeles	68	52	Pdly	Pittsburgh	40	32	Rain

The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 402 Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

National temperature extremes  
Hi: Mon., 81, Del Rio, Texas  
Lo: Mon., -8, Gunnison County, Colo.

## WIRED WORLD

## Practical technology

10 innovative products introduced at annual tech show are useful now and will be available soon

By HAYLEY TSUKAYAMA  
The Washington Post

Part of the fun of the annual International Computer Electronics Show is seeing all the prototypes and concepts that will never see the light of day, but do contain the grains of ideas that will show up in products down the line. But there are also plenty of products for the more practical among us, who want to see tech innovations that will help us now, or at least in the near future.

Here's a rundown of products that actually seemed useful — and are set to hit store shelves soon — at this year's CES in Las Vegas.

**Vysk.** Our smartphone cases can often be viewed as an extension of ourselves, thanks to the range of patterns, forms and features they can have. With the Vysk case, though, one thing will be clear: This is the phone of someone who doesn't want to share. The privacy-focused smartphone case company makes a line of cases for the everyday consumer as well as for professionals who seriously want to keep their information to themselves. All cases have sliders that can obscure your phone's cameras when they're not in use. The mid-tier (\$40) version is a charging case, while the soon-to-be released top-tier (\$230) version shuts down your phone's microphones and routes all calls through its data app.

Vysk also makes software for iOS devices that promises to encrypt photos and messages in the latter case, as long as both sides of the conversation has the software.

**SlingTV.** Okay, so SlingTV isn't a gadget per se, but it is something new introduced at CES, and something that a lot of people would probably have interest in. Dish's new service costs \$20 per month, with no contract, and gets you live television from major channels such as ESPN, TBS, HGTV, the Food Network and the Disney Channel. And it's available on a wide range of platforms.

Is it the cable killer? Not for everyone, particularly those who watch channels that the company's not offering. But it's certainly an interesting product, and the fee is still cheaper than most people's cable bills — even when combined with the monthly subscription fees for Hulu and Netflix.

**Withings Pop.** This smartwatch is remarkable for not looking like a smartwatch — a definite point in its favor as the tech world tries its hand at becoming fashionable. It's not a fancy accessory by either tech or fashion standards, but it does have an accelerometer that can count your steps, and Bluetooth connectivity, even if it doesn't



MICHAEL NAGLE, BLOOMBERG NEWS/AP

The Withings Activite Pop smartwatch reflects the tech world's attempt to becoming fashionable while delivering the latest technology.

have a touchscreen.

The device costs \$150, and is available in blue, grey or beige. It was available through Best Buy's website, but appears to be sold out. It will see wider release in March.

**ReSound LINX hearing aid.** This little — and I mean little — hearing aid may seem like a niche product, but the problem of hearing loss is more widely spread than you might think. According to the Hearing Loss Association of America, around 20 percent of adults in the U.S. report some hearing loss; that number jumps to one in three over the age of 65.

This device hooks up with your smartphone, and its accompanying app lets users set up audio profiles for specific places, such as restaurants. It will also pull in audio from your smartphone or even your television, so that you can go easy on the volume button. And, if you ever lose it, there's also a useful tracker feature on the app.

**Dart laptop charger.** One big pain of having your laptop — any laptop — around is carrying around the charger. In many cases, even sleek laptops are accompanied by big brick chargers, which take up a lot of space in a carry-on, and are not exactly portable. I, personally, have had many square-shaped bruises from toting heavy chargers in my time.

The charger is an MIT project that went to Kickstarter, and supports most major PC laptops and the plugs for multiple countries. It also comes in pretty colors — something you can't normally say of chargers. The Dart laptop charger is up for pre-order for \$90, and is set to ship this summer.

**Vectru Nano.** The smallest of Aspentia's line of GPS trackers, the Vectru Nano is a little device that lets users track their belongings, vehicles or even their family members all around the world. Aspentia is a U.S.-based telecommunications company with networks in 190 countries across the

world, meaning you have a wide area for tracking. And the \$79 Nano can fit in your palm or your pocket, for unobtrusive tracking. For the Nano, a service plan costs just \$24 per year.

Representatives at the booth suggested that it could be particularly good for parents who have children studying abroad. In other words, if Liam Neeson had one of these, the whole "Taken" franchise would have been a lot shorter.

**3D Systems Cheflet.** Really? A chocolate printer makes a list of useful gadgets? Okay, I admit that this isn't exactly great for home use, but one could really see how it would be useful for caterers and other food professionals who want to add a little something extra to their offerings. The company also makes sugar printers which, according to the chef at the 3D Systems booth, can print multiple designs simultaneously.

For the average consumer, that could mean being able to send in custom designs for cake-toppers and favors without having to pay a premium price to your caterer. That's pretty cool, right?

**Bragi's The Dash.** We've all probably gotten tied up in headphone cords at one point or another, whether you're traveling, running or just trying to get a moment to yourself. Bragi's "The Dash" headphones are the company's solution to that problem — a pair of wireless Bluetooth-connected earbuds that double as fitness trackers.

The headphones aren't for everyone. They are pricey, and not yet out — order now, and they should ship in April 2015. But as a consumer product, they're certainly useful and, hopefully, a forecast of things to come. As soon as we figure out a way not to lose them.

**Intel Compute Stick.** With the Intel Compute Stick in hand, nearly any television can become



MICHAEL NAGLE, BLOOMBERG NEWS/AP

Roger Lynch, chief executive officer for SlingTV, speaks at the 2015 Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas about Dish Network's plans to unveil a major online television service.

a PC. The \$149 device, which was being shown off at the Intel booth, is more or less a complete computer that can plug into your television's HDMI port to make it into a Windows 8.1 or Linux computer. It does all that for \$149, and is about the size of a pack of gum.

It's a pretty respectable computer. The Windows version has 2 GB of RAM and 32 GB of storage; the Linux version has 1 GB of RAM and 8 GB of storage. It also has a full-sized USB port, a micro USB port, and Bluetooth and Wi-Fi capability. It got a little lost in all of the crazy announcements Intel made this show, but is — in a practical way — much cooler than a mood-sensing slipper dress.

**94Fifty Smart Basketball.** Not quite getting that layup? The \$180 94Fifty Smart Basketball will tell you exactly what you're getting wrong and how to correct it over time. This piece of smart sports equipment from InfoMotion Sports Technologies was named as one of the show's Best of Innovations Awards honorees, thanks to its sensor-laden basketball and companion software that gives users information on the speed, angle and timing of their shots.

## Honorable mention

**JuiceBoxx.** Sometimes solving the little problems is as important as solving the big ones. JuiceBoxx is useful only for Apple laptop users, which is why I decided not to put it on the list at large. But this charger case is useful if you've ever had problems with the cords of your MacBook charger fraying at the joints — a common problem for Apple fans.

The product, the brain child of two students from Ohio State University, comes in classic candy iMac colors, and has raised more than \$31,000 on Kickstarter. It's expected to ship next month.



Courtesy of Juiceboxx Inc.

The JuiceBoxx charger case is designed for Apple laptop users.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP



PAUL CHAPLIN, PENN.LIVE.COM/AP

## At farm show, the neighs have it

A handler struggles to get his miniature horse to jump over a gate as they entertain the crowd in the Equine Arena at the Pennsylvania Farm Show on Saturday in Harrisburg, Pa. The show has been held every January since 1917.

## Woman becomes ill, dies on airline flight

**IL** CHICAGO — Spirit Airlines said a woman died after she became unresponsive on a flight last week to Chicago.

Airline spokesman Paul Berry and the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office said Santa Teresa-Robles Morales, 59, fell ill on a flight from Tampa, Fla., on Jan. 13.

A doctor began performing CPR on the woman, and the captain sought priority clearance as the plane approached O'Hare International Airport. The woman's adult son was traveling with her.

Medical personnel came on board the plane and tried to resuscitate the woman. The medical examiner's office said Morales was pronounced dead at 1:24 p.m.

An autopsy cited multiple causes of death, including hypertension, heart disease and diabetes.

## High school sophomore rescues church money

**MT** GREAT FALLS — Police said a sophomore at Great Falls High School found and turned over nearly \$1,000 in cash and checks belonging to a church.

Braxton Lorenz and his friend, Marvin Simmons, were walking in the south doors of the school last week when he noticed the bank envelope.

The money belonged to Union Bethel AME Church and had been dropped accidentally earlier in the day by a teacher who also is the church's treasurer.

Lorenz said he didn't even look inside before turning the money in to the school resource officer.

## THE CENSUS

**\$2,084**

The amount of a tip received by a pizza delivery man in Ann Arbor, Mich., on Thursday. The man, identified only as Rob, was stunned and said on video, "All I did was deliver pizza." Real estate agents from Keller Williams Realty all pitched in while attending the company's regional conference. Stacey McVey said they wanted to show their appreciation to someone in the service industry. Besides cash, the man received a Visa gift card, lottery tickets and letters of encouragement. Brian LeFevre, delivery manager at Pizza House in Ann Arbor, said the lucky delivery man was "ecstatic" and "that's a pretty good day's work" for just one pizza.

He told the Great Falls Tribune that if he had looked in it, he would have been tempted.

## Cop Cards back after 7 years off streets

**IA** IOWA CITY — After being off the beat for seven years, the Iowa City Police Department is bringing Cop Cards back to the streets of Iowa City.

Police began handing out cards last week. Feeling and looking just like baseball cards, the cards have a picture of an Iowa City police officer on the front with their name and other personal information on the back.

Crime Prevention Officer R.A. Mebus, the man who created the 2015 edition of the cards, said it's about time the cards again hit the streets.

"It's the first time we've done this since 2008," Mebus told the Iowa City Press-Citizen. Cop Cards first were handed out in 1993 and then four times since. "We're at a time that we need a little fun," Mebus said.

## Arson suspected in fire at elementary school

**GA** LITHONIA — Fire officials are investigating a suspected arson blaze that damaged an elementary school

outside Atlanta.

Authorities said they responded to the fire at Fairington Elementary School in Lithonia about 5 p.m. Saturday. Firefighters found heavy smoke and flames coming from a classroom at the back of the school.

DeKalb Fire and Rescue Capt. Eric Jackson told WSB-TV that fire damage was limited to one classroom, but there's water damage to hallways in the back part of the school. There's also smoke damage in the building.

## City residents use blue lights to support police

**VA** VIRGINIA BEACH — Have you seen the blue?

It glows off front porches, where some residents have been replacing their usual light bulbs with blue ones. They're doing it to show support for police officers — a reminder that their work and the risks they take are appreciated.

Officer Tonya Borman, a police spokeswoman, said the idea came from the nationwide Project Blue Light, which has been around for a while. It asks people to display blue lights in support of military and law enforcement personnel.

She said she's noticed more lights these days in the wake of the high-profile shootings of two New York City officers and marches

around the country showing support for police.

## 3 county firefighters charged with arson

**MS** BAY ST. LOUIS —

Three volunteer firefighters in Hancock County have been arrested on allegations of arson.

Hancock County sheriff's officials told WLOX-TV on Friday that Marie Gill, 27, of Gulfport, faces two counts of arson and one count each of conspiracy to commit arson and tampering with evidence.

Korri-Don Jones, 29, of Pearlinton, and Leslie Cheramie, 39, of Bay St. Louis, face charges of conspiracy to commit arson and accessory after the fact.

Authorities allege that the three started a marsh fire a week ago in Logtown in the Pearlington community and a marsh fire near the Clermont Harbor Pier in early December.

Gill had recently joined the Kiln Volunteer Fire Department. Jones and Cheramie were with the West Hancock department.

## Officer arrested for sex with girl, 16, is fired

**FL** OCALA — A police officer in Ocala has been



fired after his arrest on suspicion of having sex with a 16-year-old prostitute.

The Ocala Police Department said Bennie Lee Wilson III, 41, turned in his badge and uniform Thursday. He was arrested last year on two counts of unlawful sexual activity with a minor.

Police said an investigation found that Wilson had met with a 16-year-old girl who had run away from home and was involved in prostitution.

## Man scooped up by garbage truck survives

**CA** WOODLAND — A man searching for his wallet in a trash bin in Northern California was scooped up by a garbage truck on Jan. 13 and taken on a long ride.

The Oroville Mercury Register reported that the man survived the ride in the rear of a garbage truck. His name was not released. Yolo County sheriff's Lt. Martin Torres said the man told police he was stuck in the truck for about an hour and that he used lumber in the truck to reach the top of the garbage pile and avoid the compactor.

The man was taken to UC Davis Medical Center for complaints of back and neck pain.

From wire reports



## FACES

# SUCCESSING A NEW ARENA

Eric Church develops a feel for bringing his blend of rock, country to bigger venues

By JOSHUA TEHEE  
The Fresno Bee

Eric Church remembers his first arena tour, and not so fondly.

His 2011 album "Chief" had reached No. 1 on the Billboard Top 200 chart and spawned two No. 1 singles for the country singer. The success gave his band an instant upgrade.

"When 'Chief' came out, we were in theaters. Suddenly, we're in arenas, and I don't think we handled it that well," says Church, who on Jan. 12 added 27 stops to his "The Outsiders" arena tour — extending it well into summer.

The trick, he says, is to treat every show the same, whether it is at an arena, in a theater or in a nightclub.

"The bigger the room, the smaller the room should feel," Church says. It took him 30 or 40 arena shows to figure out how to make that happen.

So far, Church's second arena tour has been more successful than the first, both in terms of attendance (it has averaged more than 11,500 tickets per show and recently drew more than 18,000 for a date in Nashville) and personal gratification.

The band plays on a stage that's visible from 360 degrees, with fans on all sides.

"They almost end up on top of you," Church says. "This is the most fun I've had on tour since the bars and clubs."

If Church is one of country music's top artists, he's also a bit of an outsider (hence the name

of the tour and his most recent, Grammy-nominated album, "The Outsiders"). The singer brings a definite edge to the genre, influenced in equal parts by country artists Hank Williams Jr. and Merle Haggard and rock acts like Little Feat, AC/DC and others. His setlists can change from night to night, and he often mixes his own hits — songs like "Drink in My Hand" and "Talladega" — with covers from Lynyrd Skynyrd or Black Sabbath.

Even the tour's lineup, which features Dwight Yoakam and Halestorm, is a melding of the country and rock worlds.

Yoakam is a country icon, known for bringing honky-tonk and the Bakersfield sound to contemporary audiences in the 1980s. Halestrom has Nashville connections — the band's upcoming album was produced by Jay Joyce, who worked on Church's latest — but is very much a hard rock group. It won the Grammy Award for Best Hard Rock performance in 2013.

If all this puts Church on the outside of the country music establishment, that is OK. He is most comfortable there.

"I like the fringes," he says. That makes him refreshing, says Jody Jo Mize, morning show host and music director at Fresno, Calif., radio station KSKS.

"He is his own filter," she says. "He won't allow anyone to tell him what kind of music to make."

It isn't anything new. We've seen this kind of outlaw country come and go over the years, Mize says. Think of Yoakam, the junior



Courtesy of Universal Music Group

**Eric Church believes in giving fans the same show whether they are seeing him in a nightclub or an arena. It's an approach that he has found gratifying on his current world tour. "This is the most fun I've had on tour since the bars and clubs," he said.**

Williams or Waylon Jennings. That was lost in the '90s with the Garth Brooks set. Brooks' music and performances were high-energy, but they were not "rock," Mize says.

These days, it's "bro country" that rules the charts and air-

waves. The success of Church and others like him (Brantley Gilbert, for one) could mean that country is moving in a different — more rockin' — direction, Mize says.

"There was a void in that area that country desperately needed filled," she says.



Jessica Chastain

## Chastain shocked by backlash

The Associated Press

Jessica Chastain said Tuesday she has received a barrage of abuse following her recent speech urging more diversity in Hollywood.

The American actress, who was honored as Most Valuable Player at last Thursday's Critics' Choice Awards ceremony in Los Angeles, used her time onstage to make a plea to Hollywood executives and actors on the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr.

The 37-year-old star of "Zero Dark Thirty" implored those in attendance to "stand together against homophobic, sexist, misogynistic, anti-Semitic and racist agendas," leading Oprah Winfrey to mouth "wow" as Chastain concluded her speech.

Speaking to The Associated Press, Chastain acknowledged she was shocked by messages she's received since the ceremony — calling the reaction "strange."

"I've had really terrible people who are racist comment on the speech and say really terrible things. I'm understanding that some people in this world, how much hate they can have," she said.

However, she said, she has also been cheered by the amount of support from Hollywood insiders, including film producers and stars, who echo her beliefs on the lack of diversity within the industry.

Chastain accepted her MVP award on the evening of this year's Oscar nominations, which were criticized by some for the absence of black actors and directors.

# Louis C.K. to debut new stand-up special on website

From wire reports

Comedian and actor Louis C.K. will sell his next stand-up special, "Louis C.K. Live From the Comedy Store," on his website first, replicating the strategy that worked for one of his previous programs.

The special will debut on Louisck.net and then air this spring on the cable network FX, according to the network's chief executive officer, John Landgraf. The channel is home to C.K.'s show "Louie."

An earlier stand-up special, "Live From the Beacon Theater," took in more than \$1 million (at \$5 a pop) in less than two weeks during December 2011, C.K. said at the time. That success spurred other comedians, such as Maria Bamford and Aziz Ansari, to distribute their own programs.

C.K. hasn't commented on how much he will charge to his latest special.

## Oscar nominee Moore to help design backstage green room

Julianne Moore isn't just a nominee for best actress at this year's Oscars, she's also helping design the backstage green room.

Architectural Digest announced Tuesday that the "Still Alice" star will consult on the room's look and help choose furniture and decor for the celebrity enclave.

Moore, 54, says she "knows what it's like to be backstage on Oscar night" and is thrilled to help decorate the stars-only hangout. The garden of her New York home appeared in a 2012 issue of the magazine.

Moore will collaborate with Los Angeles-based design collective Commune.

The Oscars will be presented at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, Calif., on Feb. 22 and broadcast live on ABC.

## A\$AP Yams, member of rap collective A\$AP Mob, dies

A member of the New York-based rap collective that includes A\$AP Rocky and A\$AP Ferg has died.

RCA Records and Polo Grounds Music confirmed the death of A\$AP Yams, whose real name is Steven Rodriguez. Circumstances of his death were unavailable.

RCA Records said Yams would be remembered for his "vision, humor and dedication" to the members of the A\$AP Mob collective. Polo Grounds Music said Yams was "a driving force" in the group and would be missed.

The A\$AP Mob collective includes Rocky and Ferg, both Grammy-nominated performers.

## Other news

■ The Cannes Film Festival announced Tuesday that brothers Joel and Ethan Coen will be the festival jury's first joint chairmen. This year's festival runs from May 13-24.

■ Mick Jagger has established a scholarship at London's elite Central Saint Martins in honor of his late girlfriend, fashion designer L'Wren Scott, who committed suicide last March at age 49.

■ Celebrity chef Gordon Ramsay is facing a kitchen nightmare after a British judge ruled him liable for the 640,000-pound rent (\$1 million) on a London gastropub. Ramsay had accused his father-in-law, Christopher Hutcheson, of using an autopen machine to forge his signature on a document making Ramsay the personal guarantor.

## NATION

# Boy builds Braille printer with Legos

13-year-old Silicon Valley entrepreneur strikes investment deal with Intel Corp.

The Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — In Silicon Valley, it's never too early to become an entrepreneur. Just ask 13-year-old Shubham Banerjee.

The California eighth-grader has launched a company to develop low-cost machines to print Braille, the tactile writing system for the visually impaired. Tech giant Intel Corp. recently invested in his startup, Braigo Labs.

Shubham built a Braille printer with a Lego robotics kit as a school science fair project last year after he asked his parents a simple question: How do blind people read? "Google it," they told him.

Shubham then did some online research and was shocked to learn that Braille printers, also called embossers, cost at least \$2,000 — too expensive for most blind readers, especially in developing countries.

"I just thought that price should not be there. I know that there is a simpler way to do this," said Shubham, who demonstrated how his printer works at the kitchen table where he spent many late nights building it with a Lego Mindstorms EV3 kit.

Shubham wants to develop a desktop Braille printer that costs around \$350 and weighs just a few pounds, compared with current models that can weigh more than 20 pounds. The machine could be used to print Braille reading ma-

terials on paper, using raised dots instead of ink, from a personal computer or electronic device.

"My end goal would probably be having most of the blind people ... using my Braille printer," said Shubham, who lives in the Silicon Valley suburb of Santa Clara, just minutes away from Intel headquarters.

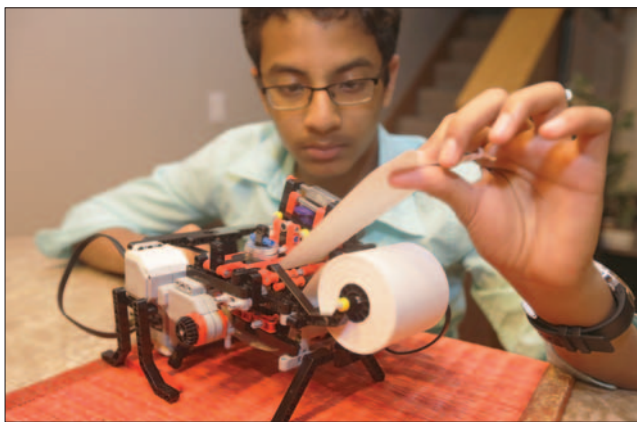
After the "Braigo" — a name that combines Braille and Lego — won numerous awards and enthusiastic support from the blind community, Banerjee started Braigo Labs last summer with an initial \$35,000 investment from his dad.

"We as parents started to get involved more, thinking that he's on to something and this innovation process has to continue," said his father, Niloy Banerjee, an engineer who works for Intel.

Shubham used the money to build a more sophisticated version of his Lego-based printer using an off-the-shelf desktop printer and a newly released Intel computer chip. The new model, Braigo 2.0, can translate electronic text into Braille before printing.

Intel executives were so impressed with Shubham's printer that in November they invested an undisclosed sum in his startup. Intel officials believe he's the youngest entrepreneur to receive venture capital, money invested in exchange for a financial stake in the company.

"He's solving a real problem,



Above: Shubham Banerjee works on his Braille printer at home in Santa Clara, Calif. Left: Shubham with his father, Niloy Banerjee.

PHOTOS BY MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

market later this year, Niloy Banerjee said.

An affordable printer would allow visually impaired readers to print out letters, household labels, shopping lists and short reading materials on paper in Braille, said Lisamaría Martínez, community services director at the San Francisco Lighthouse for the Blind, a nonprofit center that serves the visually impaired and prints Braille materials for public agencies.

"I love the fact that a young person is thinking about a community that is often not thought about," said Martínez, who is visually impaired.

and he wants to go off and disrupt an existing industry," said Edward Ross, director of Inventor Platforms at Intel. "And that's really what it's all about."

Braigo Labs is using the money to hire professional engineers

and advisers to help design and build Braille printers based on Shubham's ideas.

The company aims to have a prototype ready for blind organizations to test this summer and have a Braigo printer on the

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Harry Eley, Europe Business Operations  
Terry M. Wegner, Pacific Business Operations

## EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editor  
leonard.terry@stripes.com  
Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor  
reid.robert@stripes.com  
Sam Amrhein, Managing Editor International  
amrhein.sam@stripes.com  
Tina Croley, Managing Editor for Content  
croley.tina@stripes.com  
Sean Moores, Managing Editor for Presentation  
moores.sean@stripes.com  
Joe Gromelski, Managing Editor for Digital  
gromelski.joe@stripes.com

## BUREAU STAFF

## Europe/Mideast

Teddie Weyer, Europe & Mideast Bureau Chief  
+41-3 6385 8377, cell (080)5883.1673  
+49(0)631.3615.9310, cell +49(0)713.518.881;  
DSN (314)583.9310

## Pacific

Paul Alexander, Pacific Bureau Chief  
alexander.paul@stripes.com  
+81-3 6385 8377, cell (080)5883.1673  
DSN (315)225.5377

## Washington

Patrick Dickson, Washington Bureau Chief  
dickson.patrick@stripes.com  
+1(202)761.0908; DSN (312)763.0908  
Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News  
bowers.brian@stripes.com  
Amanda Trypanis, Design Desk Supervisor  
trypanis.amanda@stripes.com

## CIRCULATION

Mideast  
Robert Reismann, reismann.robert@stripes.com  
+49(0)631.3615.9150; DSN (314)583.9150

## Europe

Rowan Well, rowell.wang@stripes.com  
+49(0)631.3615.9111; DSN (314)583.9111

## Pacific

Mari Matsumoto, customerhelp@stripes.com  
+81-3 6385.3171; DSN (315)225.3171

## CONTACT US

## Washington

tel: +1(202) 761.0900; DSN (312)763.0900;  
529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC  
20045-1301

## Reader letters

letters@stripes.com

## Additional contacts

stripes.com/contacts

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Stars and Stripes (USPS 0471900) is published weekdays (except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) for 50 cents Monday through Thursday and for \$1 on Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AF 96338-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, Calif., and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Please send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AF 96338-5002.

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## OPINION

## Consolidate DOD intelligence gathering

By WALTER PINCUS

The Washington Post

It's time to create a free-standing Defense Department agency to handle intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, or ISR.

It's especially necessary given the growing technological capabilities and the need for this primarily airborne collection of data.

Let's not even mention the pressures of the limited Pentagon funding or the insatiable desire of the military and intelligence services for their unmanned intelligence-gathering aircraft.

But do let us mention them as more reasons to compel action. We need some rational order to ISR and an end to overwhelming and overlapping approaches.

Think of it this way: It's a chance to attain a goal of the 1986 Goldwater-Nichols Act to limit interservice rivalry by creating an integrated agency that represents all interests.

Create a staff of experienced military and civilian experts for whom ISR becomes a career. And stop rotating service personnel after one-to-three-year tours.

Currently, ISR activities are funded in multiple ways, with the bulk of the money coming from the national intelligence and military intelligence programs. Funding also comes from the Overseas Contingency Operations account, which pays for the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and other counterterrorism activities abroad, according to a 2011 Government Accountability Office report.

The undersecretary of defense for intelligence has the ISR task force in his shop, while the coordinating and oversight body is run by the deputy undersecretary of defense for intelligence for warfighter support, Lt. Gen. Raymond P. Palumbo.

But in its 2011 report, the GAO described the task force as not having "full visibility" into several budget sources that fund the Pentagon's ISR programs. The GAO said

that "multiple organizations conduct strategic planning, budgeting, and data processing and analysis across intelligence disciplines in accordance with their own priorities."

A year after the GAO report, with fighting in Afghanistan winding down, the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence said that the Pentagon "has failed to strategically plan for how ... [ISR] investment relates to future requirements."

It noted that about \$44 billion had been spent since 9/11 to procure new and enhanced ISR capabilities "without a strategy for how these systems fit into its future ISR."

At their joint Pentagon news conference on Thursday, Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Welsh talked of today's ISR issues, showing elements of cooperation and how various services still think they must continue going their own way.

"Our combatant commanders expect and demand the unique ISR capabilities that only the Air Force can provide," James said, praising how those who fly the remotely piloted aircraft, or drones, work at an "unrelenting" pace.

Not mentioned were the intelligence analysts who work with the Air Force's distributed common ground system, or DCGS).

The DCGS instantly feeds data from airborne ISR-manned and unmanned craft to "several core (ground) sites and over 30 smaller sites both within the United States and around the globe," according to an Air Force-sponsored 2012 Rand Corp. study.

James talked about the pressures on Air Force drone pilots and the plan to train more of them and increase their pay.

Welsh said there may be a look at other services that "might be investing them selves of aviation assets and see if there's an interest in those crews" moving to the Air Force program. He also said the Air Force could adopt the Army practice of allowing noncommissioned officers to serve as drone pilots.

The Rand study dealt primarily with the burn-out rate and health issues among analysts working long hours to pull together the data from ISR collectors and to prepare intelligence assessments. Rand proposed prioritizing "the retention of trained intelligence analysts" in place of normal tours that military personnel have in their various assignments.

I remember talking to former CIA Director David Petraeus in early 2011. He marveled about being able to pull together CIA analysts whose knowledge came from working on a country or problem for 10 or more years, as compared with military intelligence officers who rotated after a year or two to another position.

But the current ISR setup has another element that would make change difficult. Each service not only has its own ISR programs, but its own facilities, too.

In December, as the Army held nationwide hearings on possible downsizing, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., the new chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, sought consideration of "the far-reaching negative effects" that would come from cutting anything at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

The critical element at Huachuca, McCain said, was the "Army's unmatched leaders, capabilities and platforms in areas of cyberspace, network communications, unmanned platforms and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance [that] are forged right here at Fort Huachuca."

Any unification of ISR would inevitably face similar congressional opposition based not on money saved, but rather legislators' unwillingness to permit reduction of any military facilities in their districts or states.

I'm not optimistic that this idea will go very far. It's too rational for today's Washington. But fighting for what makes good sense is always a worthy cause.

Walter Pincus reports on intelligence, defense and foreign policy for The Washington Post and writes the Fine Print column.

## Cutting IRS budget bites hand that feeds coffers

Washington Post editorial

The Internal Revenue Service may be the least-loved arm of the federal government. For tax-hating Republican lawmakers still angry over what they see as IRS malfeasance, the antipathy is especially strong. That explains why GOP lawmakers repeatedly have cut the agency's budget over the past several years, including a 3 percent reduction this year. But no matter how therapeutic it may feel to hack away at the IRS, it is deeply irrational.

IRS Commissioner John Koskinen said Thursday that the budget punishment has been so harsh that he may have to shut down the agency sometime this summer.

Koskinen's warning comes on the heels of an ominous report from National Taxpayer Advocate Nita Olson, who represents every Americans' concerns at the IRS. In her annual report to Congress, Olson described an impending customer service disaster as the agency struggles to do an ever more complex job with less and

less money. About half of the 100 million or so people who will try to call the IRS this year probably won't get through. The agency predicts that even those who do will have to wait 30 minutes or more. Those who tough it out on hold won't be able to ask anything but basic questions because the agency has limited the topics its taxpayer support staff may answer. The agency will also reduce services at walk-in centers and stop helping elderly Americans fill out their tax forms.

"If these projections prove accurate, taxpayers in 2015 will receive the worst levels of service since the IRS implemented its current performance measures in 2010," Olson reported.

If the IRS were overfunded, some cutting back would be justified. But the agency has seen its inflation-adjusted budget reduced by about 17 percent since 2010, Olson calculated. For 2015, lawmakers tried to keep the taxpayer services budget stable, but they still ended up reducing its inflation-adjusted funding level by 3.8 percent. "The

IRS can operate more effectively and efficiently in certain areas," Olson concluded. But "the only way the IRS can assist the tens of millions of taxpayers seeking to speak with an IRS employee is to have enough employees to answer their calls."

The consequences won't end with taxpayer frustration. Koskinen has estimated that eroding enforcement will result in the government losing \$2 billion from its \$346 million cut in IRS funding. IRS dysfunction will also make the implicit tax that Americans pay tax preparers every year even closer to mandatory.

This is, to use the technical term, nuts. Congress should restore IRS funding in the short term, then simplify the tax code in the long term so that it doesn't take a CPA to navigate the internal revenue system.

It is often said that government should protect people who follow the rules and pay their taxes. Instead, Congress has opted to help tax cheats and the tax preparation industry.

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## OPINION

## ‘Je suis Charlie’ widens cultural divisions

BY SAREE MAKDISI

The public response to the massacre of journalists at Charlie Hebdo has been articulated as a gesture of solidarity: “Je suis Charlie.” It has been cheered by marchers in the Place de la République, and repeated on Hollywood stages. It has the appeal of hashtag simplicity and bumper sticker righteousness.

But despite its seductive simplicity, that gesture not only fails to address the urgent cultural and political problems that led to the massacre, it also has made them far worse. It hardens the “us”/“them” opposition between a supposedly tolerant and liberal West and its supposedly intolerant and violent antagonist, the Muslim East.

For the rush to identify with Charlie Hebdo is not just to commemorate massacred journalists but to celebrate Western culture in general, especially freedom of expression, for which the magazine — whose main claim to fame in recent years has been the relentless lampooning of Islam — has all too hastily been made a symbol. To “be Charlie” means to affiliate yourself with freedom of speech in absolute terms, as a core principle of Western civilization.

Yet there is no such thing as absolute freedom of speech. There are always limits to what can be said, how and in what context. Especially in France, speech is subject to strict — albeit selectively enforced — legal constraints. There are laws against hate speech and against speech taken to be supportive of political violence.

For the last several years, for example, the Cameroonian French satirical comedian Dieudonné M’bala M’bala has been repeatedly charged and convicted of anti-Semitic hate speech because his stand-up routine contained material that is no doubt offensive to some, and because of his infamous “quenelle,” which some see as an inverted Nazi salute. The French government has worked assiduously to have his shows banned. No sooner had the government finished free speech on

Sunday than it had arrested Dieudonné because of a Facebook post that conflated “Je suis Charlie” with the name of one of the Paris gunmen.

Even Charlie Hebdo has its limits. In 2005 it fired one of its cartoonists, Maurice Sinet, for what was taken to be an anti-Semitic slur.

It is clear, then, that in France some satirical hate speech is intolerable and will be vigorously prosecuted, while other satirical hate speech, directed against different racial or ethnic targets — in particular France’s Muslim minority — is not only permissible but has now become the centerpiece of a self-congratulatory celebration of supposedly Western values.

This is particularly problematic because, looming behind the whole Charlie affair, there is a colonial and post-colonial conflict that has been for far too long articulated along exactly the same “us”/“them” binary lines: “We” in the West are rational, good, modern and free (just don’t bring up the sordid legacy of colonialism, slavery, religious wars, etc.), while “they” are backward, bad, irrational and violent. This binary structure has been used since the late 18th century to justify the use of large-scale violence against Muslims, from Napoleon’s invasion of Egypt and the French occupation of Algeria to the current French bombardments of North Africa and Iraq, all of which at least partly set the stage for the recent violent outburst.

Charlie Hebdo has had many satirical targets, but it also has insinuated itself firmly into this structure, with its long-running series of derogatory cartoons directed against Muslims. This strays far from the original function of satire. The great satirists, including Swift, Byron and Molière didn’t direct their barbs at reviled and vulnerable minorities. On the contrary, they used satire to expose the vices and the flaws of the self-confident and the powerful. Charlie Hebdo’s satire, in contrast, descended into mere racist taunting and baiting.

And, as though on cue, the deluded young men who carried out the Paris attacks fell



SADAL DIARBOUT/AP

A demonstrator holds up a “Je suis Mohamed,” sign in Algiers, Algeria, on Friday. Chanting “I am not Charlie, I am Muhammad,” protesters left their mosques after Friday prayers and gathered in May 1 square where they were met by riot police.

for the bait. “You” dare make fun of “us,” they said, then “you” will pay the price; “we” will turn the tables. Their act of violence was clearly wrong and misguided, but what was equally misguided — and at least as dangerous in the long run — is the binary cultural and racial logic behind it.

For the attackers were born and raised in France. They were as French and as Western as their victims. Or were they not?

What does it mean to be French or Western? What does it mean to be one of “us” as opposed to one of “them”? Modern questions of inclusion and exclusion are infinitely complicated, and all of us urgently need to think about them in a collective conversation. Rallying around a simplistic slogan such as “Je suis Charlie” doesn’t

further that conversation, it retards it.

Every culture has its mix of tolerance and intolerance, right and wrong, freedom and its absence. Learning about the deep continuities and profound forms of exchange and mutuality among cultures, religions and ethnic groups, as well as their vast internal differences, is a much more productive way of trying to prevent further tragedies than merely mindlessly celebrating how great “we” are, and how despicable “they” are all over again.

Saree Makdisi, a professor of English and comparative literature at the University of California, Los Angeles, is the author of “Palestine Inside Out: An Everyday Occupation.” This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

## Obama smart not to call terrorism ‘radical Islam’

BY ELI LAKE  
Bloomberg News

Following the Charlie Hebdo massacre in Paris this month, White House spokesman Josh Earnest briefly became an Islamic theologian. At issue was why President Barack Obama’s administration, unlike the leadership of France, wouldn’t describe the murderers as adherents to “radical Islam.”

Pressed by NPR’s Mara Liasson, Earnest explained to reporters that the terrorists “wanted to invoke their own deviant, distorted view of Islam in order to justify” the attacks.

It’s easy to see the absurdity in saying that men who shout “Allahu Akbar” before they murder Jews, cartoonists and French policeman are not radical Muslims. But Earnest was not freeloading; he was articulating a longstanding U.S. policy, not only for Obama but also his predecessor, George W. Bush. Both administrations have said repeatedly since Sept. 11, 2001, that radical Islam is not Islamic.

There is a reason for this: The long war against radical Islamic terrorists requires at least the tacit support of many radical Muslims.

It sounds strange. But as Emile Nakhleh, who was one of the CIA’s top experts on political Islam between 1993 and 2006, told

me, there was a recognition following the 9/11 attacks inside the Bush administration that many supporters of the Wahhabi strain of Islam favored by al-Qaida and its allies were not plotting attacks on the West. In some cases, such as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the purveyors of Wahhabism were longstanding American allies. “There was the two-ton elephant in the room, and that is Saudi Arabia,” Nakhleh said.

So Bush for the most part opted instead to talk about the enemy as “evildoers” or “extremists,” even though on some occasions he went off message. It’s why Bush’s Arab, the purveyor of Wahhabism, was Rice, condemned as “offensive” the Danish cartoons of Muhammad in 2006 after they sparked riots across the Muslim world.

Obama took this approach even further. In 2009, he delivered two important speeches addressed to the Islamic world, quoting Quranic verse, and sent an envoy to the Organization of the Islamic Conference. Bush didn’t want a quarrel with Islam, and in his first term, Obama wanted Islam to be a strategic partner against al-Qaida.

In 2010, top counterterrorism adviser John Brennan said the administration would not describe the enemy as “jihadists” because “jihad is a holy struggle, a legitimate tenant of Islam, meaning to purify oneself or one’s community, and there

is nothing holy or legitimate or Islamic about murdering innocent men, women and children.”

Last fall, Obama said the Islamic State — which has imposed extreme Shariah law on much of Syria and Iraq — was neither a state nor Islamic.

Now, it’s important to note that Obama made those remarks when he was announcing a new air war against the Islamic State. It’s reminiscent of how Bush said Islam was a “religion of peace” just as his administration was preparing to drive al-Qaida and the Taliban out of Afghanistan.

That is not an accident. Elliott Abrams, who served in senior National Security Council positions throughout the Bush administration, told me: “We were invading two Muslim countries and we were being accused of being at war with Islam. So the administration wanted to make it very clear that we are not at war with Islam and every Muslim in the world.”

All of this gets to a paradox of the war on terrorism. It has never been a war on the tactic of terrorism, and it has always been a war against networks of radical Islamists. But to wage that war, the U.S. has had to ally with Muslim countries and people, many of whom believe the state should punish apostates, adulterers and blasphemers.

Sadly, large pluralities of Muslims in

countries allied with the U.S. in the war on terrorism disavow the tactics of terrorism but endorse the aims of radical Islam. For example, 74 percent of Muslims in Egypt feel that Shariah should be the “country’s official legal code,” and an equal majority say it should apply to non-Muslims as well as Muslims, according to a 2013 Pew Survey. Three-quarters of Pakistani Muslims support laws banning blasphemy. A majority of Muslim Iraqis said they supported “honor killings” of women who engage in premarital sex or adultery.

Given these popular attitudes, even the governments in the Muslim world most actively aiding in the fight against al-Qaida and the Islamic State have to tread a fine line over fundamentalist religion, and Washington doesn’t want to make that task harder.

It’s possible to imagine a world in the future where American presidents would speak plainly about radical Islam. It would likely be a world in which the U.S. stopped waging a global war on terrorism.

So for the time being, don’t expect the U.S. to publicly speak of a war against radical Islam, even as it continues to kill radical Muslims throughout the Islamic world.

Eli Lake is a Bloomberg View columnist who writes about politics and foreign affairs.

# INDEPENDENT NEWS FOR THE U.S. MILITARY COMMUNITY

## Whenever They Fight and Wherever They Live

The first Stars and Stripes was printed during the Civil War, when a band of Union soldiers published a handful of editions.

During World War I, Stars and Stripes reappeared in Paris on February 8, 1918, to serve the doughboys of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF), by order of General of the Armies John J. Pershing. An all-military staff produced it weekly until the war's end.

A second renaissance began on April 18, 1942, when a small group of servicemen began publishing a four-page weekly Stars and Stripes in London. They sold each copy for "tuppence" (about 5 cents) and in no time doubled their page count to eight pages, printing daily instead of weekly.

The first World War II edition of Stars and Stripes featured an interview with Gen. George C. Marshall, Army Chief of Staff. Marshall quoted Gen. Pershing, World War I Commander of the AEF, who described Stars as a major factor in sustaining morale. Stars and Stripes later found a champion and protector in Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander and later president of the United States.

Eisenhower enforced a hands-off policy in regard to Stars and Stripes that continues to the present day.

Operations expanded, following GIs to the battlefield to bring them the news. During the war, Stars and Stripes published over 30

separate editions, running up to 24 pages per issue.

At one time, Stars and Stripes had some 25 printing locations in Europe, North Africa, the Middle East and the Pacific. The Pacific edition was launched a week after VE day (Victory in Europe, May 8, 1945).

The war ended—but Stars and Stripes kept going. Its reporters and photographers continued to join American troops in the field, throughout the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, during the 1990s Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and in Bosnia and Kosovo.

From the 2003 outset of Operation Enduring Freedom, Stars and Stripes was there to report first-hand. The war in Afghanistan continues to receive steady coverage. And during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Stars reporters embedded with military units in Kuwait and Iraq, as well as on Navy ships in the region.

Stars and Stripes today is a multimedia news organization. The majority of Stars and Stripes unique reporting efforts is read now in digital form, either online at [stripes.com](http://stripes.com) or via mobile offerings for iPhone, Android and iPad, in over 200 countries around the world.

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Recipient: Martin Kuz: "Soldiers Recount Attack"
- 2013 National Headline Awards – Second Place: News Series (Forever After: A Warrior Wounded; A Family Challenged)
- 2013 min Best of Web: Redesign – Honorable Mention  
Stripes UK website

- 2011 Military Photographer of the Year – Honorable Mention  
Recipient: Joshua DeMotts

- 2011 Sigma Delta Chi Award – Breaking News Photography (Newspaper Circulation 100,001+ or Affiliated Website/National Magazine) Recipient: Laura Rauch: "For those I love I will sacrifice"

- 2011 John Reagan "Tex" McCrary Award for Excellence in Journalism – Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation

- 2010 Military Reporters and Editors Awards – Overseas coverage (< 100,000 circulation)  
Recipient: Jon Rabinoff

- 2010 National Headline Awards – First Place: Public Service (Forcing Change) – Third Place: News Series (Coming Home: The Men of Triple Deuce)

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- 2006 Military Reporters and Editors Awards – Overseas coverage (< 100,000 circulation)  
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- 2005 Military Reporters and Editors Awards – Overseas coverage (< 100,000 circulation)  
Recipients: Steve Lewis Photography; Terry Boyd

- 2004 American Legion Excellence in Journalism Award – Ground Truth Series

- 2003 Scripps Howard Foundation National Journalism Award – First Amendment, Finalist







## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Pats' Wilfork helps accident victim after game

The Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Tom Brady earned his latest Super Bowl berth, then left Gillette Stadium with his supermodel wife. Patriots coach Bill Belichick probably went straight to the film room.

And it's best not to ask too many questions about what fun-loving tight end Rob Gronkowski did when New England beat the Indianapolis Colts 45-7 in Sunday's AFC championship game.

Vince Wilfork, on the other hand, stopped on his way home and rescued a woman from a partially overturned car.

"It wasn't a big deal," the 325-pound defensive tackle said Monday. "It's just seeing somebody that needed help. I helped them."

State troopers said they responded to an SUV rollover in Foxborough not far from Gillette Stadium shortly before 1 a.m. Monday and were surprised to see Wilfork checking on the driver.

Wilfork reached into the vehicle and helped troopers remove 38-year-old Mary Ellen Brooks of Hanson, authorities said, and made sure police didn't need any more help before heading home.

Typical Wilfork, teammates said. The 11-year veteran didn't even tell them about the incident.

"It's not like, 'Hey, I saved the day,'" special teams captain Matthew Slater said. "He's been a pillar here of this franchise, a character guy who really, when you get to know the man, he's all about giving back."

Wide receiver Julian Edelman agreed.

"That doesn't surprise me at all," he said. "That sounds like something 'V' would do."

Brooks was charged with drunken driving. A phone listing for her couldn't immediately be found Monday, and it wasn't clear whether she has a lawyer.

In other NFL news:

■ Bengals quarterback Andy Dalton is headed to his second Pro Bowl, replacing the injured Aaron Rodgers.

Dalton was a seventh alternate in voting for the Pro Bowl last month. Rodgers had a calf injury during the playoffs, green bay last the NFC championship game to Seattle 28-22 in overtime.

Dalton also went to the Pro



ELISE AMENDOLA/AP

New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady, left, shakes hands with defensive lineman Vince Wilfork during a press conference after the AFC championship game on Sunday. On his way home from the game, Wilfork helped police pull a driver from an overturned vehicle.

Bowl during his 2011 rookie season. He has led the Bengals to the playoffs during each of his four seasons, only to lose in the opening round. The Bengals lost in Indianapolis to end their season.

The Bengals have four players in the Pro Bowl. Receiver A.J. Green and punter Kevin Huber were voted in directly. Defensive tackle Geno Atkins replaced the injured Ndamukong Suh of Detroit.

■ Dallas tight end Jason Witten is going to his 10th Pro Bowl, as an injury replacement for Denver's Julius Thomas.

Witten's addition Monday night sends him to his third straight Pro Bowl after a seven-year streak ended in 2011. The game is Sunday in Arizona.

The 32-year-old Witten had 64 catches for 703 yards and five touchdowns in his 12th season. He and Tony Gonzalez are the only tight ends with 11 straight 700-yard seasons.

Witten is the fourth player with at least 10 Pro Bowls for the

Cowboys. Defensive lineman Bob Lilly made 11 appearances, while defensive back Mel Renfro and offensive lineman Larry Allen had 10 apiece.

■ Dominic Raiola's agent says the Detroit Lions have told the veteran center he is not part of their plans next season.

Raiola has played all 14 of his NFL seasons with Detroit, starting 203 games. Agent Kenny Zuckerman says Raiola would like to keep playing, but he'll have to do so elsewhere. He signed a one-year deal last offseason that kept him with the Lions for 2014.

Detroit made the playoffs this season for only the second time in Raiola's tenure, qualifying as a wild card. But quarterback Matthew Stafford was sacked 45 times, and the offensive line will now have a different look next season. The Lions picked center Travis Swanson in the third round of last year's draft.

■ The Jacksonville Jaguars have hired former Buffalo Bills head coach Doug Marrone as as-

sistant head coach and offensive line coach.

Marrone replaces George Yarno, who left the team last June to begin cancer treatment. Assistant Luke Butkus was named interim O-line coach for the season.

With two rookies and two second-year players starting on the line, the Jaguars gave up a franchise-record 71 sacks. Two days after the season, coach Gus Bradley said he expected Yarno to return for the 2015 season.

Marrone exercised an opt-out clause in his contract after the Bills were sold following the death of owner Ralph Wilson.

■ Joe Barry is the new defensive coordinator for the Washington Redskins.

The San Diego Chargers' linebackers coach was hired Tuesday by Redskins coach Jay Gruden after a nearly three-week search for a replacement for Jim Haslet.

Barry has been a defensive coordinator once before. He was

on the staff of the 2008 Detroit Lions, the only 0-16 team in NFL history.

He has since been a linebackers coach with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Chargers. In between, he coached linebackers at Southern California.

## Klitschko to fight Jennings in US in April

FRANKFURT, Germany — Wladimir Klitschko has agreed to defend his WBA and IBF heavyweight titles against Bryant Jennings on April 25 at Madison Square Garden.

It will be the champion's first fight in the United States in seven years.

Jennings is undefeated in 19 fights, with 10 knockouts. Klitschko says he has "great respect" for Jennings, who "moves well and has a refined technique."

The American also has a longer reach than the champion, although he is shorter.

Klitschko is 6-foot-6 with a reach of 81 inches. Jennings is 6-3 with a reach of 84 inches.

Klitschko, who also holds the minor WBO and IBO belts, has a 63-3 record, with 54 KOs.

## Brewers trade pitcher Gallardo to Rangers

Yovani Gallardo is getting a chance to pitch at home.

The Milwaukee Brewers traded Gallardo and \$4 million of his \$14 million salary to the Texas Rangers for infielder Luis Sardinas and right-handers Corey Knebel and Marcos Corey on Monday.

"It definitely means a lot. I grew up here, went to high school here," said Gallardo, who lives in North Texas. "I'm very excited for this opportunity and looking forward to it."

While the deal gives the Rangers a needed proven starter in the middle of their rotation behind Yu Darvish and Derek Holland, it could also indicate the Brewers may try to pursue free-agent pitcher James Shields.

Gallardo, who turns 29 next month, was 8-11 last year with a 3.51 ERA in 32 starts last season. He was 89-64 with a 3.69 ERA in an eight-year career with Milwaukee.

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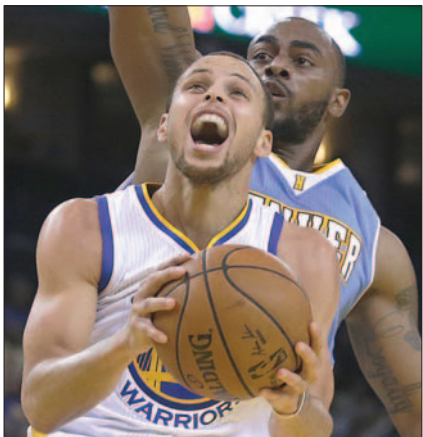
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## NBA



Ben Margot/AP

The Warriors' Stephen Curry, left, prepares to shoot past the Nuggets' Darrell Arthur during Monday's game in Oakland, Calif. Golden State won 122-79.

# Warriors win by 43

## Lopsided victory over Nuggets extends Golden State's home streak to 16

By ANTONIO GONZALEZ  
The Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — James Michael McAdoo signed a 10-day contract Monday morning after getting called up from the NBA Development League. By late afternoon, he had teammates and fans cheering his debut and went home with the game ball.

That's the kind of season it has been for the Golden State Warriors — everything's working, and everybody's contributing.

All 13 players on the active roster scored, and the NBA-leading Warriors matched a franchise record with their 16th consecutive home win, whipping the Denver Nuggets 122-79 on Monday.

"I told the guys after the game, 'I'm not taking this for granted,'" Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "This is so unique to have a group pull for each other that exhibits the selflessness where, from one night to the next, somebody isn't going to get a lot of points or a lot of shots. And it doesn't seem to bother them."

Which is what made Monday's matchup so special.

The Warriors (33-6) dominated Denver in such impressive fashion that everybody got a chance to shine. Klay Thompson (22 points) and Stephen Curry (20 points and eight assists) led the way, as usual, and the reserves never re-entled in the fourth quarter.

That included McAdoo, a call-up from the Warriors' D-League affiliate in Santa Cruz, who kept the crowd entertained and energized. He threw down a dunk and received a standing ovation after

blocking Randy Foye's floater.

"It felt amazing," said McAdoo, who finished with 11 points and five rebounds in 13 minutes.

The Warriors outdid Denver (18-23) in nearly every major category, including shooting percentage (54.3 percent to 34.5 percent), rebounds (53 to 39), assists (30 to 17), blocks (six to three) and steals (10 to nine). The victory topped Golden State's 126-86 win over Philadelphia on Dec. 30 for the largest margin in season.

Denver offered little resistance. Ty Lawson finished with 19 points and six assists, and Jameer Nelson had 14 points and five assists for the Nuggets, who have lost three in a row.

"We didn't compete. We looked like we were scared," said Nuggets coach Brian Shaw. "I'm trying to be guarded in what I'm saying because I don't want to throw anybody under the bus, but I just don't understand how as a team we can't come out and compete when you're playing the best team in the league."

The combination of Golden State's smothering defense and offensive efficiency with Denver's poor shooting created the perfect conditions for a blowout — one that set all kinds of benchmarks.

The Warriors outscored Denver 25-15 in the first quarter, which tied the fewest points the Nuggets had scored in the opening period all season. They began the second quarter on a 22-5 run and carried a 55-28 lead into halftime.

The Warriors went ahead 85-49 late in the third quarter before Kerr sat most of his starters.

## Roundup

# Harden, Rockets blast Pacers

The Associated Press

HOUSTON — James Harden scored a season-high 45 points, including 18 in the third quarter, and the Houston Rockets beat the Indiana Pacers 110-98 on Monday.

It was the 18th 30-point game and fourth with 40 this season for Harden, the NBA's leading scorer. He bounced back after scoring just 11 in a 131-106 loss to Golden State on Saturday.

Houston led by 10 at halftime and used a 33-point third quarter, thanks in large part to four three-pointers from Harden, to push the lead to 20 entering the fourth.

The Pacers outscored Houston 30-21 in the first period, and a 5-0 run got them within eight with 2½ minutes left. But Harden scored seven points after that to secure the victory.

C.J. Miles had 23 points to lead the Pacers, who have lost five straight.

Harden finished one point shy of his career high. Dwight Howard had 14 points and 17 rebounds for the Rockets.

Corey Brewer's jump shot to start the fourth quarter stretched Houston's lead to 91-66. Indiana answered with a 13-4 run to cut the deficit to 95-81 with 5 minutes left.

Roy Hibbert cut Houston's lead to nine with a dunk midway through the third quarter before a 19-4 run by the Rockets pushed it to 86-62 with 2 minutes left in the period. Harden was unstoppable during that stretch, hitting three three-pointers in just more than a minute late in the run. The Pacers missed five shots and turned the ball over twice as Houston padded the lead.

Harden made four of six three-pointers in the third quarter and almost had a fifth one. He stepped in front of a bad pass by Luis Scola with a second remaining and launched a shot from well beyond the three-point line that swished through the net. But officials ruled that he didn't get it off in time.

The Rockets were up 88-68 at the end of the third.

Indiana had cut the lead to six early in the second quarter when Brewer outscored the Pacers 6-2 over the next minute and a half to make it 35-25. He made two jump shots before capping the run with a dunk after a steal by Josh Smith.

The Pacers were down by 12 later in the quarter when they used a 13-2 spurt to get to 41-40. Donald Sloan led the way in that stretch, starting the run with a reverse layup and capping it with a four-point play.

**Hawks 93, Pistons 82:** Atlanta won its 13th straight game one short of equaling the team record, as Mike Scott and Paul Millsap each scored 20 points in beating visiting Detroit.

The Hawks haven't lost since Dec. 26 against Milwaukee.

**Cavaliers 108, Bulls 94:** LeBron James scored 26 points and J.R. Smith added 20 as host

Cleveland entered a favorable portion of its schedule with a win over Chicago.

Cleveland opened a 25-point lead in the third quarter and handed Chicago its fourth loss in five games.

**Wizards 111, 76ers 76:** Marcin Gortat scored 20 points, and John Wall had 11 points and 10 assists as host Washington beat overmatched Philadelphia.

Washington went on a 20-3 run for a 27-11 lead late in the first quarter and coasted to the win.

**Trail Blazers 99, Kings 94:** Damian Lillard scored 22 points, including the go-ahead basket with 1:20 remaining, as host Portland ended a three-game losing streak with a win over Sacramento.

Lillard had six points during the final 80 seconds and helped rally the Trail Blazers (31-11) from an 11-point, second-half deficit.

**Hornets 105, Timberwolves 80:** Gerald Henderson scored 17 points and Brian Roberts added 16 as Charlotte defeated visiting Minnesota.

Charlotte's Al Jefferson returned after a nine-game absence due to a groin injury. He had eight points and five rebounds in his 25 minutes.

**Clippers 102, Celtics 93:** Blake Griffin scored 22 points, and DeAndre Jordan had 19

points and 12 rebounds as host Los Angeles held off Boston after losing most of a 23-point lead.

Griffin came up one rebound short of a double-double in helping the Clippers improve to 4-1 against the Celtics in their last five meetings.

**Mavericks 103, Grizzlies 95:** Dirk Nowitzki scored 21 points, including the last eight for his team in the final 2 minutes, as Dallas defeated host Memphis.

The Grizzlies took a two-point lead with about 4 minutes left, but Dallas outscored Memphis 14-4 the rest of the way.

**Raptors 92, Bucks 89:** Kyle Lowry scored 18 points and was one of six Toronto players to reach double figures against host Milwaukee.

Terrence Ross added 16 points as the Raptors won for the third time in 10 games.

**Suns 115, Lakers 100:** Goran Dragic and Isaiah Thomas scored 24 points apiece and fellow guard Eric Bledsoe added 17 as host Phoenix pulled away in the second half to hand Los Angeles its fifth loss in a row, the last two without Kobe Bryant.

Nick Young scored 24 for the Lakers, who were tied 51-41 at halftime but fell behind by 10 in the third quarter and 19 in the fourth.



Boo Levy/AP

Rockets guard James Harden, left, is fouled by Pacers guard Rodney Stuckey as he drives to the basket during Monday's game in Houston. Harden scored 45 points in Houston's 110-98 victory over Indiana.





## COLLEGE BASKETBALL



ELLEN OZIER/AP

Duke head coach Mike Krzyzewski reacts during the first half Monday against Pittsburgh in Durham, N.C. The No. 5 Blue Devils won 79-65 to give Krzyzewski his 999th career victory.

## AP Top 25 roundup

## Krzyzewski gets 999th win

The Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. — Because all those Duke guards put up some big numbers, their Hall of Fame coach is on the brink of an even bigger one.

Mike Krzyzewski moved one victory from 1,000 for his career in the fifth-ranked Blue Devils' 79-65 win over Pittsburgh on Monday night.

"It means we're 16-2," Krzyzewski said, referring to his team's overall record. "That's exactly what that means. And hopefully we can be 17-2 the next game we play, and that's the way we approach everything. We'll continue to approach it that way."

Coach K improved to 999-308 during his 40-year career. His first chance to become the first men's coach in Division I history to reach four figures comes Sunday against St. John's in Madison Square Garden. That's also where in 2011 he passed Bob Knight as the winningest men's coach in college basketball's top tier.

Nearly everyone in the backcourt played a big role in this one for the Blue Devils (16-2, 4-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) — who shot 46 percent and made 11 three-pointers while holding Pitt to three of them.

"We saw the ball go in," Krzyzewski said.

Freshman Tyus Jones matched a season high with 22 points and hit a season-best four three-pointers. So did Rasheed Sulaimon, who finished with 13 points. Quinn Cook — who was just 3-for-

10 from the field — finished with 11 points and 10 rebounds.

And for the second straight game they mixed in a 2-3 zone defense — an out-of-character move for Krzyzewski, a noted man-to-man disciple.

Jamel Artis had a career-high 21 points for Pitt (13-6, 3-3), which shot 45 percent and had its two-game winning streak snapped.

"We had open shots, we had good looks," coach Jamie Dixon said. "We got exactly what we wanted, and at times it seemed like we haven't handled that well."

Pitt trailed by 21 in the second half before making things interesting down the stretch by twice cutting Duke's lead to 10, the last coming on Michael Young's layup with just over a minute left making it 75-65.

Pitt missed its next four shots while Justise Winslow, Amile Jefferson and Jones combined to make 4 of 6 free throws in the final minute.

**Georgetown 78, No. 4 Villanova 58:** The Hoyas took over first place in the Big East with an old-fashioned, push-and-shove win worthy of the conference's legacy of physical play, forcing 17 turnovers and holding their opponents to 34 percent shooting in a victory over the visiting Wildcats.

Freshman Isaac Copeland scored a career-high 17 points, and D'Vauntes Smith-Rivera also had 17 for the Hoyas (13-5, 5-2), who pulled away early with a 17-0 run on the way to a 42-20 halftime lead and withstood a spirited sec-

ond-half rally. Georgetown shot 60 percent in the first half and 51 percent for the game to move one-half game ahead of Villanova (7-2, 4-2) — and students celebrated by storming the court at the final whistle.

**No. 11 Kansas 85, No. 19 Oklahoma 78:** Kelly Oubre Jr. scored 19 points, converting two driving layups in the closing minutes, and the host Jayhawks held on after blowing a 20-point first-half lead for a victory over the Sooners.

Perry Ellis added 16 points, Cliff Alexander had 13 points and 13 rebounds, and Brannen Greene scored 12 for the Jayhawks (15-3, 4-1 Big 12), who bounced back from a loss Saturday night at Iowa State by beating Oklahoma (12-6, 3-3) for the 14th straight time at Allen Fieldhouse.

**No. 17 Texas 66, TCU 48:** Javan Felix scored 15 points, Isaiah Taylor added 13 and the visiting Longhorns rolled to a victory.

The Longhorns (13-4, 3-2 Big 12) never trailed in their second straight win since a two-game skid that included a blowout loss at home to Oklahoma. Earlier in the day, Texas moved up three spots in The Associated Press poll after a 27-point win at home over No. 18 West Virginia.

Taylor, who has played all five conference games after missing 10 games with a broken left wrist, also had seven rebounds and six assists.

## Domination: Frosh Booker helping boost No. 1 Wildcats

## FROM BACK PAGE

No Wildcat has hotter hands right now than guard Devin Booker, who was named the SEC's top freshman for the second straight week and third time overall. Booker is 20-for-28 from long range the past seven games, including 3-for-6 with a team-high 13 points in Saturday's 70-48 win at Alabama.

"It's a confidence thing," Kentucky assistant coach John Robic said of Booker's shooting. "He has that going, he has been in that gym every day and he is getting rewarded by it and our team is. When you put in that work, you see results, and that's what he is doing."

Robic, standing in Monday for coach John Calipari, also credited the Wildcats' improved defense for making things possible on offense. Alabama shot 44 percent, but was 5-for-18 from three-point range, got outrebounded 19-13 defensively and committed 15 turnovers leading to 17 points.

Calipari's first victory in Tuscaloosa with Kentucky followed the home-court 49-point annihilation of Missouri, during which it held the Tigers to 27 percent shooting and grabbed 19 more rebounds.

"Our whole attitude has changed for real," sophomore

**'Now our whole attitude has gone back to 'We just want to [beat] people.'**

Derek Willis  
Kentucky forward

forward Derek Willis said. "We've beaten top-10 teams by like 30, 40 points and we come in and just think we're going to get a win. Now our whole attitude

has gone back to 'We just want to [beat] people.'"

And right now, Vanderbilt just wants to beat anybody.

The very young Commodores have dropped consecutive games to Georgia and Mississippi State by three points each after losing to No. 23 Arkansas by double digits.

Vanderbilt coach Kevin Stallings has been trying to keep players' confidence up, but acknowledged that they faced a tough challenge in a self-assured Kentucky team.

"I'm hopeful that that's not something I have to worry about, but their defense is truly amazing," he said. "Hopefully, it doesn't happen where our confidence is dinged any more than it already is."



MARK CORNELISON, LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER/TNS

Kentucky's Willie Cauley-Stein, right, blocks the shot of Alabama's Rodney Cooper on Saturday in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Kentucky won, 70-48. Improved defense has helped the No. 1 Wildcats regain their stride in Southeastern Conference play.



NHL

## Scoreboard

## Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
Tampa Bay	47	29	14	4	62	152
Detroit	46	26	11	9	61	134
Montreal	44	28	13	3	59	121
Boston	46	24	16	6	54	121
Florida	46	24	14	10	50	107
Toronto	47	22	22	3	47	139
Ottawa	44	18	18	8	44	120
Buffalo	47	14	30	3	31	89
Metropolitan Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
N.Y. Islanders	46	26	12	14	58	151
Pittsburgh	46	26	12	6	58	134
N.Y. Rangers	43	26	13	4	56	131
Washington	45	24	13	8	56	133
Columbus	44	20	21	3	43	113
Philadelphia	46	18	22	7	42	107
New Jersey	47	22	22	3	42	107
Carolina	46	16	25	5	37	98

Western Conference						
Central Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
Nashville	44	30	10	4	64	136
St. Louis	46	29	13	4	62	148
Chicago	45	28	15	2	58	139
Winnipeg	47	25	14	8	58	131
Dallas	45	25	17	7	49	143
Colorado	47	19	18	10	48	122
Minnesota	45	20	20	5	45	124
Pacific Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
Anaheim	46	30	10	6	66	133
Vancouver	44	25	15	4	54	127
San Jose	47	24	17	6	54	127
Calgary	46	25	18	3	53	133
Los Angeles	46	20	14	12	52	127
Arizona	45	16	24	5	37	104

## Western Conference

Central Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
Nashville	44	30	10	4	64	136
St. Louis	46	29	13	3	62	148
Chicago	45	28	15	2	58	139
Winnipeg	47	25	14	8	58	131
Dallas	45	21	17	7	49	143
Colorado	47	19	18	10	48	122
Minnesota	45	20	20	5	45	124
Pacific Division						
Anaheim	46	30	10	6	66	133
Vancouver	44	26	15	3	55	123
San Jose	47	24	17	6	54	127
Calgary	46	25	18	3	53	133
Los Angeles	46	20	14	12	52	127
Arizona	45	16	24	5	37	104

**Pacific Division**

for overtime losses.

**Sunday's games**  
Winnipeg 4, Arizona 3, SO  
N.Y. Rangers 5, Pittsburgh 2  
Dallas 6, Chicago 3  
Detroit 6, Buffalo 4

**Monday's games**  
N.Y. Islanders 7, Philadelphia 4  
Carolina 4, Toronto 1  
Vancouver 2, Florida 1  
St. Louis 3, Colorado 1  
Columbus 3, Minnesota 1  
Calgary 4, Los Angeles 1, OT  
New Jersey 5, San Jose 2

**Tuesday's games**  
Ottawa at N.Y. Rangers  
Edmonton at Washington  
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia  
Nashville at Montreal  
Minnesota at Detroit

**Note:** Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Sunday's games						
Winnipeg 4, Arizona 3, 5OT						
N.Y. Rangers 5, Pittsburgh 2						
Dallas 6, Chicago 3						
Detroit 6, Buffalo 4						

**Monday's games**

N.Y. Islanders 7, Philadelphia 4						
Carolina 4, Toronto 1						
Florida 2, Florida 1						
St. Louis 3, Colorado 1						
Vancouver 2, Minnesota 1						
Calgary 2, Los Angeles 1, OT						

**Tuesday's games**

Ottawa at N.Y. Rangers						
Chicago at Washington						
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia						
Nashville at Montreal						
Minnesota at Detroit						
Vancouver at Tampa Bay						
Atlanta at Chicago						
Boston at Dallas						

**Wednesday's games**

Toronto at Ottawa						
Chicago at Pittsburgh						
Columbus at Winnipeg						
Boston at Colorado						
Calgary at Anaheim						
Los Angeles at San Jose						

## Monday

## Flames 2, Kings 1 (OT)

Calgary	0	0	1	1-
Los Angeles	0	0	1	0-
<b>Third Period</b> —1, Los Angeles, Greene 3 (Brown, Lewis), 10:23. 2, Calgary, Monahan 14, 13:55.				
<b>Overtime</b> —3, Calgary, Wideman 12 (Russell, Gaudreau), 4:08.				
<b>Shots on Goal</b> —Calgary 3-6-10-4-23. Los Angeles 10-17-6-1-34.				
<b>Power-play opportunities</b> —Calgary 0 of 5; Los Angeles 0 of 4.				
<b>Goals</b> —Calgary, Ortio 4-0-0 (34 shots-33 saves). Los Angeles, Quick 16-11-10 (23-21).				
<b>A</b> —10-230 (181,118). <b>T</b> —2:41.				

**Hurricanes 4, Maple Leafs 1**

Carolina	2	1	1-4
Toronto	2	1	0-2
<b>First Period—</b> 1. Carolina, Malone 3 (Zetterstrom, Tavares), 7:06, 2. Carolina, Lindholm 9 (Sejka), 7:47.			
<b>Second Period—</b> 3. Carolina, E. Staal 14 (Staal, Rusby), 4:48.			
<b>Third Period—</b> 4. Toronto, Kadri 12 (Goff, Rusby), 1:49 (pp), 5. Carolina, E. Staal 15 (Jo Staal, Rask), 18:26 (en).			
<b>Shots on Goal—</b> Calgary 3-6-10-23, Toronto 9-10-16-35.			
<b>Power-play opportunities—</b> Carolina 0 of 3; Toronto 1 of 4.			
<b>Goals—</b> Carolina, Khudobin 5-8 (35 shots-33 saves), Toronto: Goff 16:14-11 (13-10), Reimer (0-48 second, 18-18).			
<b>A—</b> 18-979 (188,119), T—2:39.			



The Canucks' Derek Dorsett, right, and the Panthers' Brian Campbell chase the puck during Monday's game in Sunrise, Fla. Vancouver won 2-1.

## Blues 3, Avalanche 1

Colorado	1	0	0-1
St. Louis	1	2	0-3
<b>First Period—</b> 1. St. Louis, Gunnarsson 2 (Schwartz, Stastny), 8:06, 2. Colorado, Duchene 13, 13:02.			
<b>Second Period—</b> 3. St. Louis, Schwartz 16 (Steen), 3:22 (pp), 4. St. Louis, Oshie 13 (Gosses, Steen), 22:40.			
<b>Shots on Goal—</b> Colorado 8-5-5-18, St. Louis 13-15-3-30.			
<b>Power-play opportunities—</b> Colorado 0 of 3; St. Louis 1 of 2.			
<b>Goals—</b> Colorado, Varlamov 11-10-6 (30 shots-27 saves), St. Louis, Bellotti 13-5-2 (18-17).			
<b>A—</b> 19,187 (19,150), T—2:20.			

## Devils 5, Sharks 2

New Jersey	2	1	2-5
San Jose	1	1	0-2
<b>First Period—</b> 1. San Jose, Pavelski 23 (Thornmont), 3:59, 2. New Jersey, Tootoo 4 (Sestito, Josefsson), 15:29, 3. New Jersey, Bernier 6 (Gomez), 16:04.			
<b>Second Period—</b> 4. San Jose, Nieto 4 (Kennedy, Hertl), 4:00, 5. New Jersey, Cammalleri 15 (Henrique, Gomez), 14:45 (pp).			
<b>Third Period—</b> 6. New Jersey, Tzajac 8 (Larsson, Havlat), 11:10, 7. New Jersey, Josefsson 2 (Henrique, Merrill), 14:32 (sh).			
<b>Shots on Goal—</b> New Jersey 17-12-5-34, San Jose 8-10-18-36.			
<b>Power-play opportunities—</b> New Jersey 1 of 3; San Jose 0 of 4.			
<b>Goals—</b> New Jersey, Schneider 16-19-4 (36 shots-34 saves), San Jose, Stalock 5-6-11 (34-29).			
<b>A—</b> 17,562 (17,562), T—2:27.			

## Blue Jackets 3, Wild 1

Columbus	1	0	2-3
Minnesota	1	0	0-1
<b>First Period—</b> 1. Columbus, Dubinsky 3 (Wisniewski, Connaught), 7:57, 2. Minnesota, Parise 17 (Kokkonen, Pominville), 18:43 (pp).			
<b>Third Period—</b> 3. Columbus, Wisniewski 5 (Foligno, Hartnell), 5:35 (pp), 4. Columbus, Hartnell 10 (Wisniewski), 16:57.			
<b>Missed Penalty Shot—</b> Parise, Minn, 9:02 second.			
<b>Shots on Goal—</b> Columbus 5-9-9-23, Minnesota 5-12-9-26.			
<b>Power-play opportunities—</b> Columbus 1 of 2; Minnesota 1 of 4.			
<b>Goals—</b> Columbus, Bobrovsky 16-14-2 (26 shots-25 saves), Minnesota, Dubnyk 11-6-2 (23-20).			
<b>A—</b> 15,064 (17,954), T—2:25.			

## Canucks 2, Panthers 1

Vancouver	2	0	0-2
Florida	0	0	1-1
<b>First Period—</b> 1. Vancouver, Vrbata 18 (Sedin, H.Sedin), 3:25, 2. Vancouver, Horvat 3 (Hansen, Hamhuis), 8:03.			
<b>Third Period—</b> 3. Florida, Pirri 4 (Bolland), 17:28.			
<b>Shots on Goal—</b> Vancouver 13-9-1-24, Florida 6-9-10-24.			
<b>Power-play opportunities—</b> Vancouver 0 of 5; Florida 1 of 4.			
<b>Goals—</b> Vancouver, Miller 23-9-1 (24 shots-23 saves), Florida, Duong 17-16-8 (23-20).			
<b>A—</b> 9,373 (17,040), T—2:26.			

## Islanders 7, Flyers 4

Philadelphia	0	2	2-4
N.Y. Islanders	3	2	2-7
<b>First Period—</b> 1. N.Y. Islanders, Ledy 7 (Tavares, Kulemin, Boychuk), 1:32, 2. N.Y. Islanders, Ledy 9 (Boychuk, Grabner), 8:06.			
<b>Second Period—</b> 3. N.Y. Islanders, Kulemin 5 (Goff, 4. Philadelphia, Stroll 7 (B.Schenn, Voracek), 9:07 (pp), 5. N.Y. Islanders, Bailey 8 (Gosses, Henne), 12:46, 6. Philadelphia, Del Zotto 3 (Voracek, Bailey), 15:12, 7. N.Y. Islanders, Tavares 21 (Nielsen), 19:52 (pp).			
<b>Third Period—</b> 8. Philadelphia, Giroux 15 (Gosses, Henne), 1:49, 9. N.Y. Islanders, Ledy 7 (Tavares, Kulemin, Boychuk), 1:32, 2. N.Y. Islanders, Ledy 9 (Boychuk, Grabner), 8:06.			
<b>Shots on Goal—</b> Philadelphia 14-7-8-29, N.Y. Islanders 9-20-41-41.			
<b>Power-play opportunities—</b> Philadelphia 1 of 3; N.Y. Islanders 1 of 4.			
<b>Goals—</b> Philadelphia, Zepp 3-2-0 (20 shots-18 saves), N.Y. Islanders, Ledy 7 (Tavares, Kulemin, Boychuk), 1:32, 2. N.Y. Islanders, Ledy 9 (Boychuk, Grabner), 8:06.			
<b>A—</b> 16,170 (16,170), T—2:23.			



DANNY MOLOSHOK/AP

Kings goalie Jonathan Quick, right, prevents Flames center Sean Monahan from scoring as Los Angeles defenseman Drew Doughty, rear left, also defends during Monday's game in Los Angeles. The Flames won 2-1 in overtime.

## Roundup

## Flames douse Kings in OT

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Dennis Wideman scored 4:08 into overtime as Calgary rallied for its fourth straight victory a 2-1 win over Los Angeles.

Sean Monahan tied it with 6:05 left in regulation for the Flames, who are unbeaten on their five-game Pacific Division road trip. Joni Ortio stopped 33 shots in his fourth straight win as Calgary moved past Los Angeles into the final playoff spot in the Western Conference with the victory.

Matt Greene scored midway through the third period and Jonathan Quick made 22 saves for the defending Stanley Cup champions, who wrapped up their seven-game homestand with a dismal 1-2-4 record and dropped out of the playoff picture.

Wideman's goal wasn't confirmed until video review confirmed his shot had ricocheted off the camera inside the net.

**Islanders 7, Flyers 4:** Nikolay Kulemin had two goals and an assist as host New Jersey reclaimed first place in the Eastern Conference with a victory over Philadelphia.

Following its last game before the All-Star break, New York is assured of being on top of the Metropolitan Division when it resumes play next week. The Islanders, 15-2 against divisional foes, are off until they host the New York Rangers next Tuesday. The Islanders are 16-4 overall at home.

Michael Grabner, John Tavares and Nick Leddy each had a goal and an assist.

Grabner gave the Islanders the lead on their first shot, and Kulemin made it 3-0 with a short-

handed tally on New York's first shot of the second period. Kulemin also scored in between, and Josh Bailey and Tavares found the net in the Islanders' three-goal comeback.

**Canucks 2, Panthers 1:** Radim Vrbata and Bo Horvat scored, and Ryan Miller stopped 23 shots to lead visiting Vancouver to its third straight win.

Brandon Pirri spoiled Miller's bid for a third straight shutout with 2:32 remaining, ending the goalie's career-best scoreless streak at 200:45. Miller, who had blanked Philadelphia and Carolina in his last two starts, topped his previous best scoreless streak of 161:35, set in 2010 with Buffalo.

Vancouver improved to 3-1 on a five-game road trip.

**Blues 3, Avalanche 1:** Jaden Schwartz was the goal and assist as St. Louis' defense stifled visiting Colorado.

Brian Elliott made 17 saves, T.J. Oshie also scored and defenseman Carl Gunnarsson got his second goal of the season for the Blues. St. Louis has scored in a season-best eight consecutive games, going 7-0-1 in that stretch.

Alexander Steen had two assists, giving him 18 points during a 10-game points streak. Ken Hitchcock won his 153rd game with St. Louis, tied with Brian Sutter for second on the franchise list.

**Blue Jackets 3, Wild 1:** James Wisniewski had the go-ahead goal, two assists and made a critical defensive play in the crease late in the third period to help Columbus beat host Minnesota.

Brandon Dubinsky scored early for the Blue Jackets, and Scott Hartnell tipped in Wisniewski's

shot with 3:03 left to seal the victory for goalie Sergei Bobrovsky. The All-Star made 25 saves to improve to 5-1 in his career against the Wild and won for the first time in five starts. Bobrovsky posted a 3.55 goals-against average in those previous four losses.

**Hurricanes 4, Maple Leafs 1:** Eric Staal scored twice and Anton Khudobin stopped 34 shots to lead visiting Carolina.

Brad Malone and Elias Lindholm also scored for the Hurricanes, who improved to 6-2-1 this month.

Nazem Kadri scored with 5:11 remaining to end Khudobin's shutout bid and end Toronto's scoring drought at 162:14. The Maple Leafs, back home after a winless four-game trip, have lost five straight and fell to 1-6-0 under interim coach Peter Horachek.

**Devils 5, Sharks 2:** Mike Cammalleri scored a tiebreaking, power-play goal late in the second period to help New Jersey beat host San Jose.

Steve Bernier, Jordan Tootoo, Travis Zajac and Jacob Josefson also scored for the Devils, who bookended wins over Los Angeles and San Jose around a lopsided loss in Anaheim on what proved to be a successful California swing.

Cory Schneider made 34 saves one game after being knocked out of the game after getting hit in the head by a puck.

Joe Pavelski and Matt Nieto scored for the Sharks, who have lost five of six home games and have already surpassed last year's total of regulation home losses with their eighth this season. Alex Stalock made 29 saves as he set a career high in goals allowed in a game.

J PAT CARTER/AP

## NFL PLAYOFFS

# Seattle's comeback still hard to fathom

## Onside kick, two-point conversion force OT

By TIM BOOTH  
The Associated Press

RENTON, Wash. — A day later, it was still hard to fathom how the Seattle Seahawks are headed for their second straight Super Bowl.

Even for those directly involved in Seattle's stunning comeback to win the NFC title.

"A little bit," said wide receiver Jermaine Kearse, who caught the winning 35-yard touchdown in overtime of Seattle's 28-22 win over Green Bay.

"But the type of guys that we have in our locker room is a bunch of different stories of different paths of how people got to where they got.

"You think about all the undrafted guys, you think about the guys that were drafted in the late rounds and rose to the occasion. I feel like our team story is full of adversity and pushing through it and that's what showed."

Just how the Seahawks rallied to stun the Packers was still being comprehended on Monday while Seattle began preparations for its chance at a second straight championship facing New England.

Seattle is keeping the same schedule as last year with three days of practice this week before heading to Arizona on Sunday.

Seattle coach Pete Carroll intends on having most of the game plan in place before the Seahawks leave.

"We do have to get a lot done. This is a very heightened time for us. This is not sit back and take a couple of days. We're going after it," Carroll said. "Wednesday, Thurs-

day, Friday we're game planning and we'll have the game plan in before we leave. That's an old Bill Walsh way.

"That's the way we've always done the bowl games and stuff since we've been doing it. It's a really good way for the coaches and players to focus before the distractions that naturally come up when you get on the road."

Seattle's improbable comeback started when it trailed 19-7 after Russell Wilson threw his fourth interception of the game with about five minutes remaining.

But the interception started the chain of events that helped Seattle pull off its rally, beginning with Morgan Burnett's decision to slide down in the open field rather than trying to return the pick as far as possible.

Seattle was able to force Green Bay into a three-and-out with the Seahawks using only two of their timeouts and just 1:12 elapsing off the clock. The Seahawks needed only 1:43 to go 69 yards and score on Wilson's 1-yard touchdown with 2:09 remaining.

Then came the onside kick, which Carroll said Monday gets practiced once a week. Just 44 seconds later, Marshawn Lynch was in the end zone after a 24-yard run and the ensuing two-point conversion pass from Wilson to tight end Luke Willson, who wasn't supposed to be involved in the original play.

And lastly, on the first drive of overtime, Wilson made a check at the line of scrimmage, recognizing there was no safety in the middle of the field and Kearse had single coverage. All Kearse had to do was win his matchup.



DAVID J. PHILLIPS/AP

Seattle's Jermaine Kearse, left, catches the game-winning touchdown pass in front of Green Bay's Tramon Williams during overtime of the NFC championship game Sunday in Seattle. The Seahawks won 28-22 to advance to Super Bowl XLIX.

# NFL investigating whether Pats deflated footballs

By HOWARD FENDRICH  
The Associated Press

The NFL is investigating whether the New England Patriots deflated footballs that were used in their AFC championship game victory over the Indianapolis Colts.

"We are looking into it," league spokesman Brian McCarthy wrote in an email to The Associated Press on Monday. "We do not have anything further to add at this point."

The inquiry was first reported by the website for WTHR-TV in Indiana, citing an unnamed source.

"We'll cooperate fully with whatever the league wants us to, whatever questions they ask," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said Monday during his regular conference call with reporters.

He said he was unaware there was an issue until Monday morning.

The Patriots have come under scrutiny with regards to NFL rules in the past, most infamously when they were punished for videotaping sideline signals used by the New York Jets during a 2007 game. Belichick was fined \$500,000, and the team was docked \$250,000 and stripped of its 2008 first-round draft pick.

According to the NFL rule book, home teams are responsible for furnishing playable balls at all times. Each team brings 12



MATT SLOCUM/AP

New England quarterback Tom Brady looks to pass Sunday during the first half of the AFC championship game against the Indianapolis Colts in Foxborough, Mass. The NFL is investigating whether the Patriots deflated footballs that were used in the game.

primary balls, while home teams are required to also bring 12 backup balls.

Once the referee makes sure the footballs are properly inflated, they're delivered to ball attendants provided by the home team.

The league's game operations manual notes: "If any individual alters the footballs, or if a non-approved ball is used in the game, the person responsible and, if appropriate, the head coach or other club personnel will be subject to discipline, including but not limited to, a fine of \$25,000."

Deflating a football could change the way it would be gripped by a player or the way it travels through the air.

The Patriots beat the Colts 45-7 to reach the Super Bowl. New England will play the defending champion Seattle Seahawks for the NFL title at Glendale, Ariz., on Feb. 1.

In Sunday night's lopsided AFC finale, quarterback Tom Brady threw for three touchdowns and running back LeGarrette Blount gained 148 yards while scoring three touchdowns to send New England to its sixth Super Bowl in the past 14 years.

Colts quarterback Andrew Luck had his worst game as a pro, completing only 12 of 33 passes for 126 yards, no touchdowns and two interceptions.

AP Sports Writer Howard Ulman in Boston contributed to this report.



## AUSTRALIAN OPEN

## No worries for Djokovic, Serena in openers

Tournament's top seeds easily into 2nd round

By JOHN PYE  
The Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — As a first-time dad with a baby at home, Novak Djokovic could see merits in the tale of Serena Williams' mid-match espresso that has been brewing in the lead-up to the Australian Open.

Hey, he reckons, why not open up the menu?

The No. 1 seeds in the men's and women's draws both had straight-set wins in their first-round matches on Tuesday. Djokovic shrugged off the effects of a cold to beat No. 116-ranked Aljaz Bedene 6-3, 6-2, 6-4 in his first Grand Slam match as a father, and Williams beat No. 106-ranked Alison Van Uytvanck 6-0, 6-4.

Williams, with five Australian titles in her collection of 18 majors, didn't need anything to perk her up as she raced through the first set in 21 minutes. It was a vastly different story when she arrived in Australia, jet-lagged, this month to start her preparations for the season's first major, and asked for a coffee during a Hopman Cup match in Perth.

She checked with the chair umpire and tournament referee first, because she didn't know if she could order a brew. The coffee was served, and Williams rallied for a win.

"Judging by what she did, it opens up a new chapter of rules I guess on the tennis court," Djokovic said. "Maybe we need to explore more. Some people can't live without coffee in the morning, it keeps them going. I guess that helped her in that match."



LEE JIN-MAN/AP

Novak Djokovic hits a return to Aljaz Bedene during their first-round match Tuesday in Melbourne, Australia. Djokovic won 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.

Djokovic has left his wife and baby son — Stefan, who was born in October — at home as he bids for a fifth title at Melbourne Park. He was sick on the weekend, and missed some practices.

"It hasn't been an ideal couple of weeks in terms of health and preparation," he said. "But I fought my way through. Now it's behind me."

Djokovic won the first of his Australian Open titles in 2008, then three in a row from 2011. But his 25-match winning streak at Melbourne Park ended in a quar-

terfactual loss last year to eventual champion Stan Wawrinka.

That led to a breakthrough for Wawrinka that included his first major, a rise to No. 3 in the rankings, and a Davis Cup title with Switzerland.

Seeded fourth, he began the defense of a major for the first time with a 6-1, 6-4, 6-2 win over No. 100-ranked Marcel Ilhan.

"It's great, bringing me a lot of memories from last year," Wawrinka said of his return. "It was great to come back here feeling happy, happy with my game."

U.S. Open finalist Kei Nishikori and Wimbledon semifinalist Milos Raonic are part of the next generation of serious major contenders, and both opened their campaigns well.

No. 5 Nishikori beat Nicolas Pietrangeli 6-4, 7-6 (4), 6-2, and No. 8 Raonic fired 30 aces in a 7-6 (3), 7-6 (3), 6-3 win over Illya Marchenko. No. 9 David Ferrer, a quarterfinalist or better at the last four Australian Opens, also advanced.

The 33-year-old Lleyton Hewitt started his 19th consecutive Australian Open with a four-set win in a night match, while Vasek Pospisil beat Sam Querrey 6-3, 6-7 (5), 2-6, 6-4, 6-4, and No. 17 Gael Monfils rallied from two sets down, and from a break down in the fifth, to beat fellow Frenchman Lucas Pouille 6-7 (3), 3-6, 6-4, 6-1, 6-4. Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitová and No. 6 Agnieszka Radwanska advanced, along with 2014 Australian finalist Dominika Cibulková, two-time champion Victoria Azarenka, and No. 18 Venus Williams. No. 12 Flavia Pennetta, No. 13 Andrea Petkovic and No. 15 Jelena Jankovic were all eliminated.

Azarenka, coming back from a foot injury, beat Sloane Stephens 6-3, 6-2 — her third win in three years over the American at the Australian Open — and will next have to play U.S. Open finalist Caroline Wozniacki.

Serena Williams has only ever lost once in the first round of a major — she's playing her 58th. Inevitably — she played in a bright dress that revealed her lower back — there was the question on fashion.

It's part of her plans to have fans and rivals looking at her back all year, although she thinks there might have to be some modifications if more order-in deliveries are allowed.

"I don't know what's allowed. A hamburger, French fries," she said. "Yeah, I love eating pizza. I can't have it [this tournament]. I don't want to break my dress."

**Friends on motherhood:** The news of 2014 champion Li Na's pregnancy has other players talking about motherhood.

"Maybe there will be twins and a doubles team," joked Venus Williams, who has won 13 Grand Slams doubles titles with her younger sister, Serena.

The 34-year-old Williams said she wasn't ready for children yet. "I don't know. I'm still a big kid. I'm still growing up," Williams said in response to a question during her news conference after her first-round win in Australia.

"She definitely made the right decision, I think, starting a family," Williams said. "I hope that one day I can get to that level. We'll see."

"It's such a big job. It's like the biggest job in the world," added Williams, who has won seven

Grand Slam singles titles. "As much responsibility as I've taken on in my life, that still seems daunting."

**Hair of expectancy:** Raonic's sculpted hair is a source of conversation around the tennis tours. It's so famous, in fact, it even has its own spoof Twitter accounts — @milosraonicchair and @Milos Hair.

And his fellow Canadian, Eugenie Bouchard, has had enough. Asked about his latest haircut following her first-round win at the Australian Open, Bouchard took aim at Raonic's obsession with styling.

"I made fun of his hair last year. I don't know how it's different now. I just think he spends way too much time worrying about his hair."

More than her? "Clearly," she deadpanned.

**Friendly advice:** Serena Williams had one word of advice for Taylor Townsend before the 18-year-old American played at an Australian Open warm-up tournament in Hobart.

"Win," Serena wrote in a text. "I told her I'm about to go on court and she just put 'win,' that's it," Townsend said with a laugh.

Townsend didn't win her Australian Open debut match against former No. 1-ranked Wozniacki on Tuesday, but she said the advice she's received from Serena and her sister Venus has certainly made an impression in her first couple years on tour.

"It's hard work to be out here. It's very dog-eat-dog," she said. "And to have them in my corner, with them being such great champions, it's a great asset for me to have."



ROB GRIFFIN/AP

Serena Williams celebrates a point won against Alison Van Uytvanck on Tuesday in Melbourne, Australia.



## SPORTS



## Moving on

Top seeds Djokovic, S. Williams  
advance to second round » **Page 31**

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## Back to domination

Kentucky reclaiming  
edge after bumpy start  
to conference schedule

By GARY B. GRAVES  
The Associated Press

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Considered vulnerable after needing overtime to win its first two conference games, top-ranked Kentucky appears to have reclaimed its edge following dominant wins over Missouri and Alabama.

The Wildcats (17-0, 4-0 Southeastern Conference) aimed to keep it going against struggling Vanderbilt on Tuesday night.

Kentucky's hot shooting and strong defense have keyed consecutive routs of the Tigers and Crimson Tide by a combined 71 points. The Wildcats have shot 48 percent or better in consecutive games and held both squads to a combined 6-for-36 (17 percent) from behind the arc.

Those efforts have contributed to the program's fourth-best start ever. The Wildcats' goal: maintaining that roll against the Commodores (11-6, 1-3), who have lost three straight since beating Auburn on Jan. 6.

Kentucky forward Trey Lyles said opening SEC play with narrow escapes of Mississippi and Texas A&M have taught the Wildcats not to take anything for granted, despite theirs and Vanderbilt's opposite trajectories.

"I think we just came out with a lack of energy offensively and defensively, and it showed in how we played and how teams played against us," Lyles said Monday. "The last couple of games we've picked it up, definitely."

Offense has been the obvious bright spot for Kentucky, which has made 50 of 102 from the field (49 percent) and 16 of 35 from three-point range (46 percent).

SEE DOMINATION ON PAGE 28

Kentucky freshman  
guard Devin Booker  
BRYNN ANDERSON/AP

No. 5 Duke puts Coach K one victory  
away from 1,000th » **Page 28**

All 13 on active roster score  
as Warriors rout Nuggets » **Page 26**

